MAKOTO YUKIMURA

VINLAND SAGA

BOOK·ELEVEN

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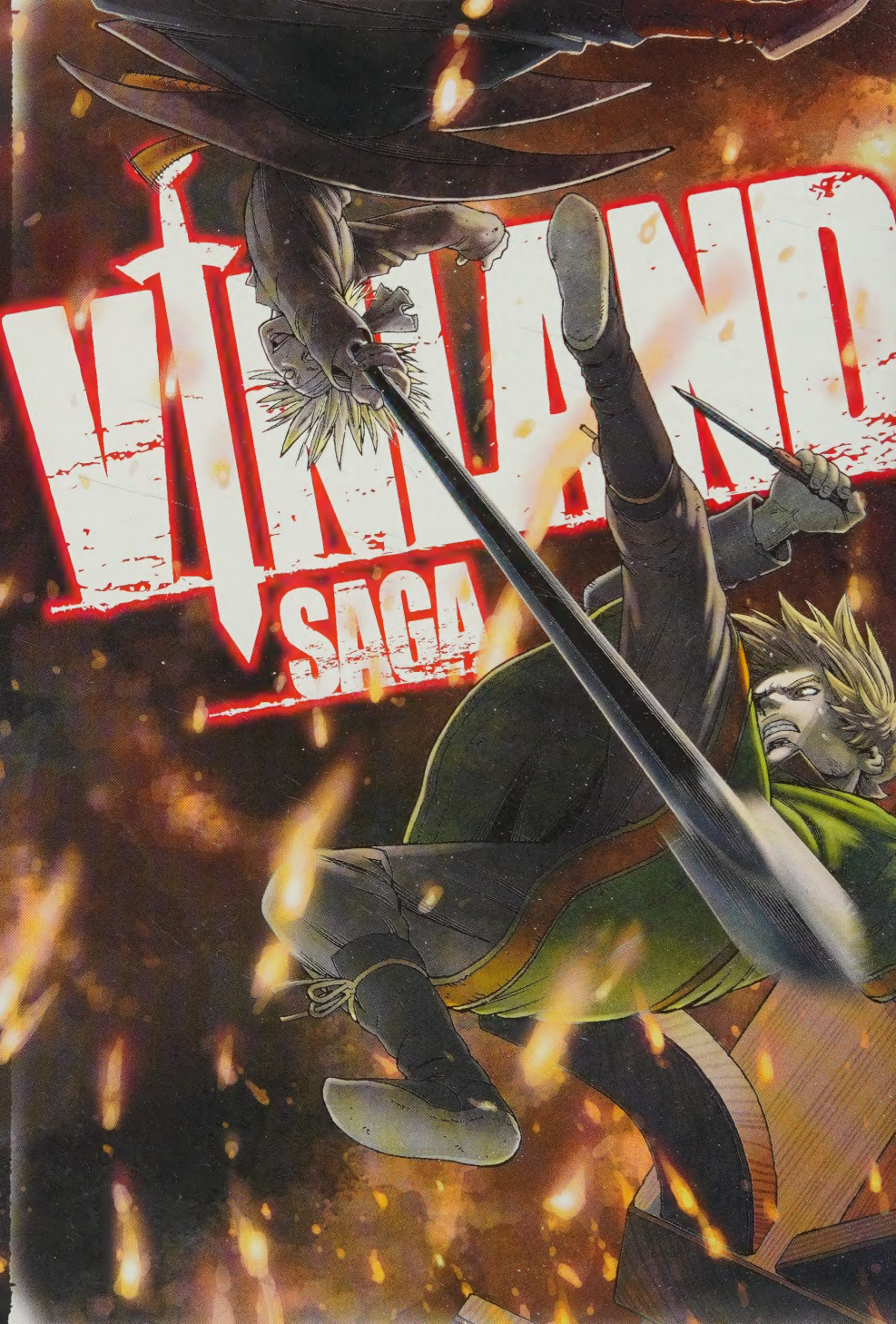
VINLAND
SAGA

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CHAPTER 145: WAR IN THE BALTIC (21)

EXECUTION GROUNDS INSIDE JOMSBORG'S FORTRESS

STOP FIGHT-ING!

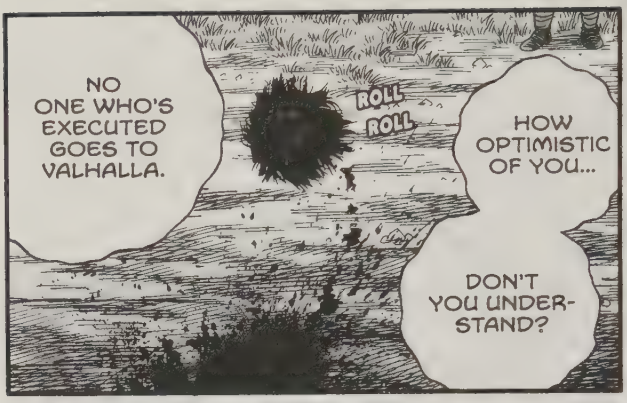
LET GO OF ME!!

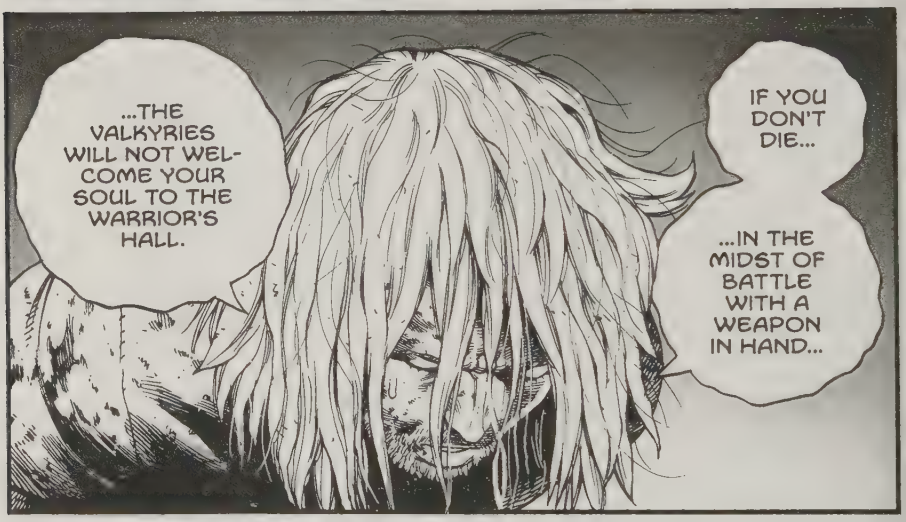
I DEMAND A WEAPON, OR...

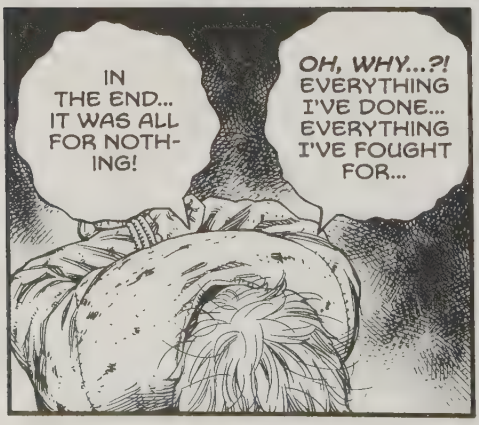
I REFUSE TO DIE THIS WAY!

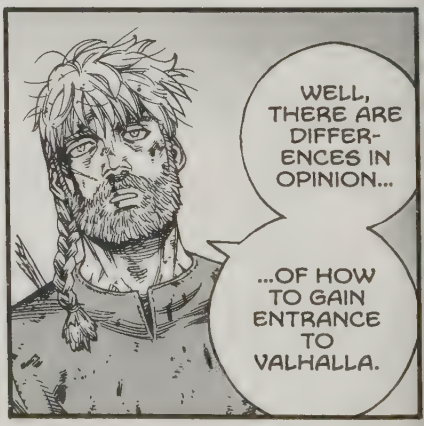
GIVE ME A WEAPON, DAMN YOU!

ZH
UNK

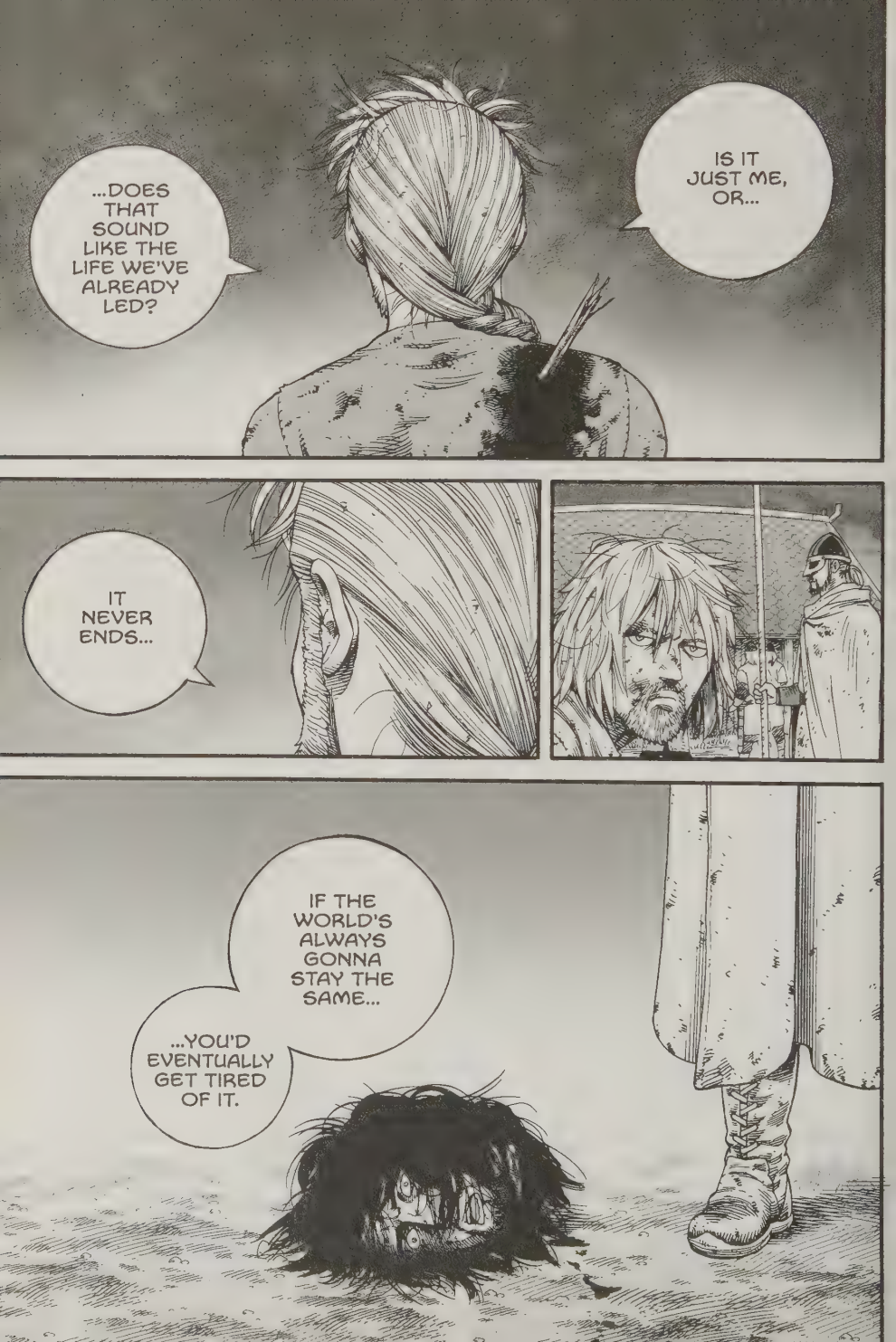

NO ONE WHO'S EXECUTED GOES TO VALHALLA.
ROLL
ROLL
HOW OPTIMISTIC OF YOU...
DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND?

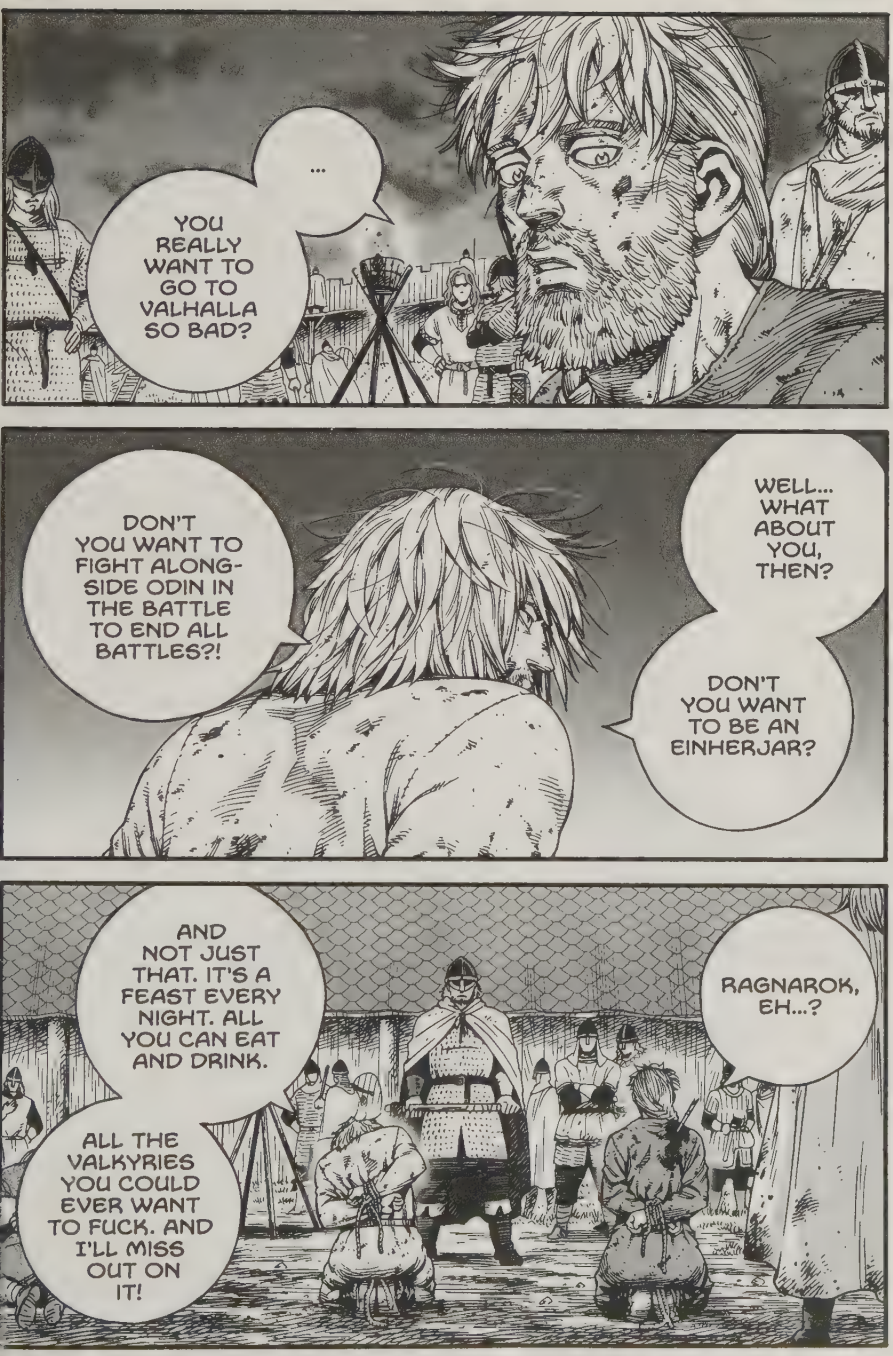

...THE VALKYRIES WILL NOT WEL-COME YOUR SOUL TO THE WARRIOR'S HALL.
IF YOU DON'T DIE...
...IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE WITH A WEAPON IN HAND...


IN THE END... IT WAS ALL FOR NOTH-ING!
OH, WHY...?! EVERYTHING I'VE DONE... EVERYTHING I'VE FOUGHT FOR...


WELL, THERE ARE DIFFER-ENCES IN OPINION...
...OF HOW TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO VALHALLA.

GIVE ME A WEAPON TO FIGHT WITH!
WHERE IS YOUR WARRIOR'S MERCY?!
BWS SHT
WHERE DO YOU THINK THE SOUL IS... THE HEAD, OR THE BODY?
HEY, OLAF.
...HEY...
...WHAT?
THAT WAY WE'LL KNOW WHERE YOUR SOUL IS, BY WHICH ONE ACTUALLY MOVES.
WHEN THEY CUT YOUR HEAD OFF...
...TRY SHRUGGING YOUR SHOULDERS AND OPEN-ING YOUR MOUTH.


...DOES THAT SOUND LIKE THE LIFE WE'VE ALREADY LED?
IS IT JUST ME, OR...
IT NEVER ENDS...
IF THE WORLD'S ALWAYS GONNA STAY THE SAME...
...YOU'D EVENTUALLY GET TIRED OF IT.


...
YOU REALLY WANT TO GO TO VALHALLA SO BAD?
DON'T YOU WANT TO FIGHT ALONG-SIDE ODIN IN THE BATTLE TO END ALL BATTLES?!
WELL... WHAT ABOUT YOU, THEN?
DON'T YOU WANT TO BE AN EINHERJAR?
AND NOT JUST THAT. IT'S A FEAST EVERY NIGHT. ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK.
ALL THE VALKYRIES YOU COULD EVER WANT TO FUCK. AND I'LL MISS OUT ON IT!
RAGNAROK, EH...?

IT HURTS...

HIS LIFE ISN'T IN DANGER...

...BUT WE SHOULD KEEP HIM AT REST UNTIL THE WOUND CAN CLOSE.

JUST KILL ME!

AAAGH!

THOUGH I WAS HOPING NOT TO OWE HIM ANY FAVORS...

YOU'RE RIGHT... WE'LL BORROW A WAGON FROM THORKELL.

STILL, WE OUGHT TO TAKE HIM TO THE BOAT.

LEIF ISN'T GOING TO HEAL IN A CARRION FIELD LIKE THIS.

THEY'RE TRYING TO ACT LIKE *I'M* THEIR LEADER! IT'S ALL A BUNCH OF NONSENSE.

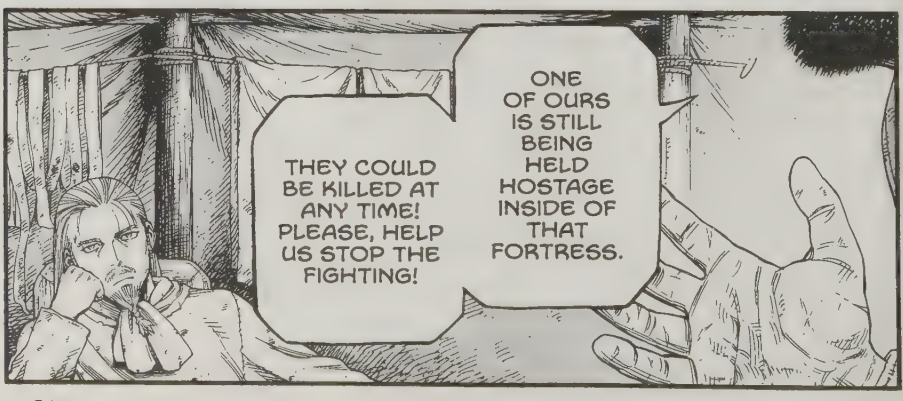
YES. I'M CERTAINLY NOT.

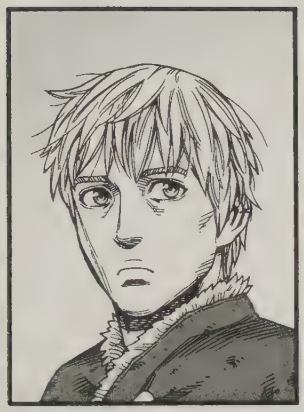
THIS THORKELL FELLOW, IS HE THE ONE IN CHARGE?

INSIDE THORKELL'S CAMP
KAAAH!
RRGH!
HNNG!
YOUR RIBS STOPPED THE ARROW, SO YOUR INSIDES ARE SAFE.
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW. WE GOT THE HEAD OUT.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

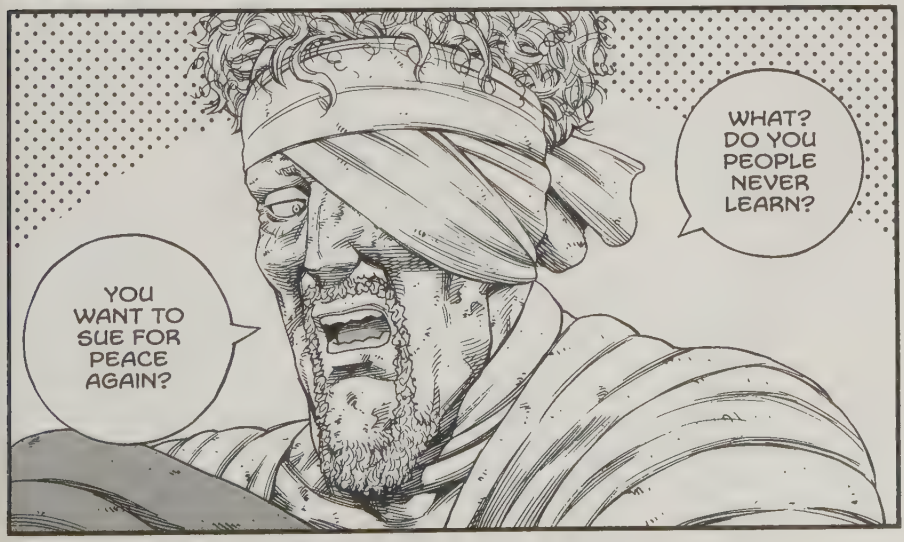
HE WANTS TO HAND OVER THE CHIEF'S SEAT PEACE-FULLY.

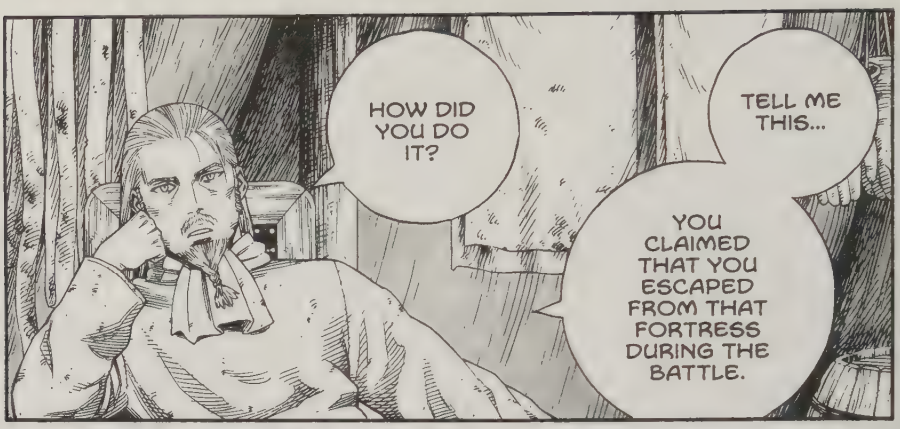
BALDR HAS A DIFFERENT VIEW OF THINGS THAN FLOKI.

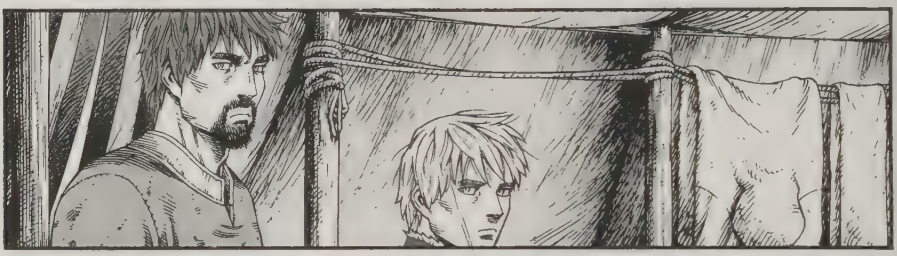


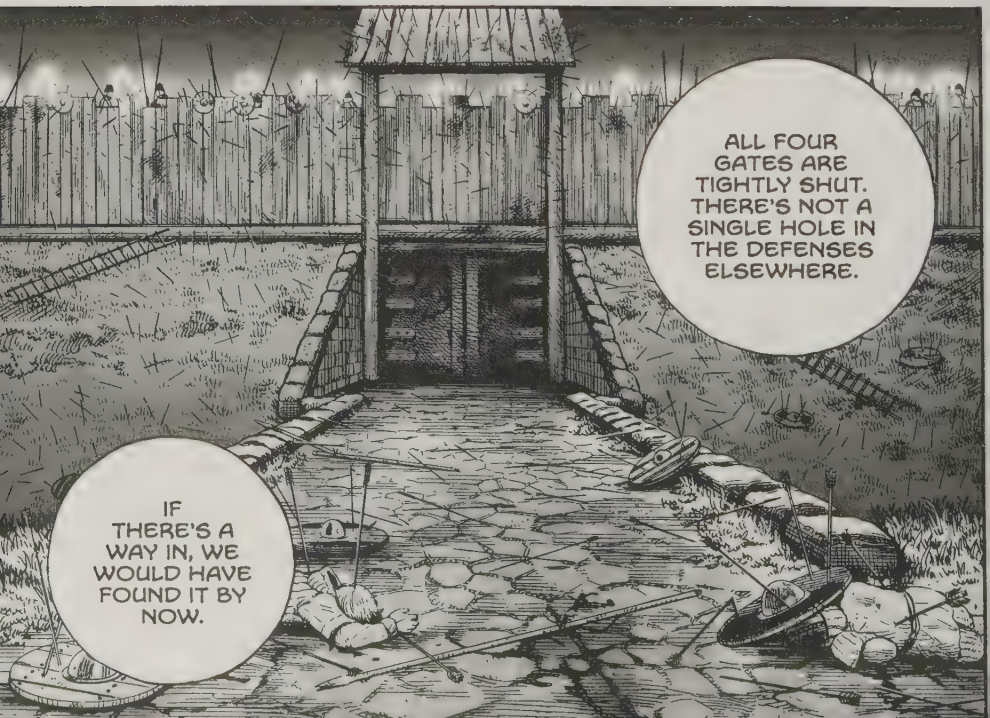


LET ME SEE HIM.
I HAVE SOME-THING TO TELL THIS THOR-KELL.

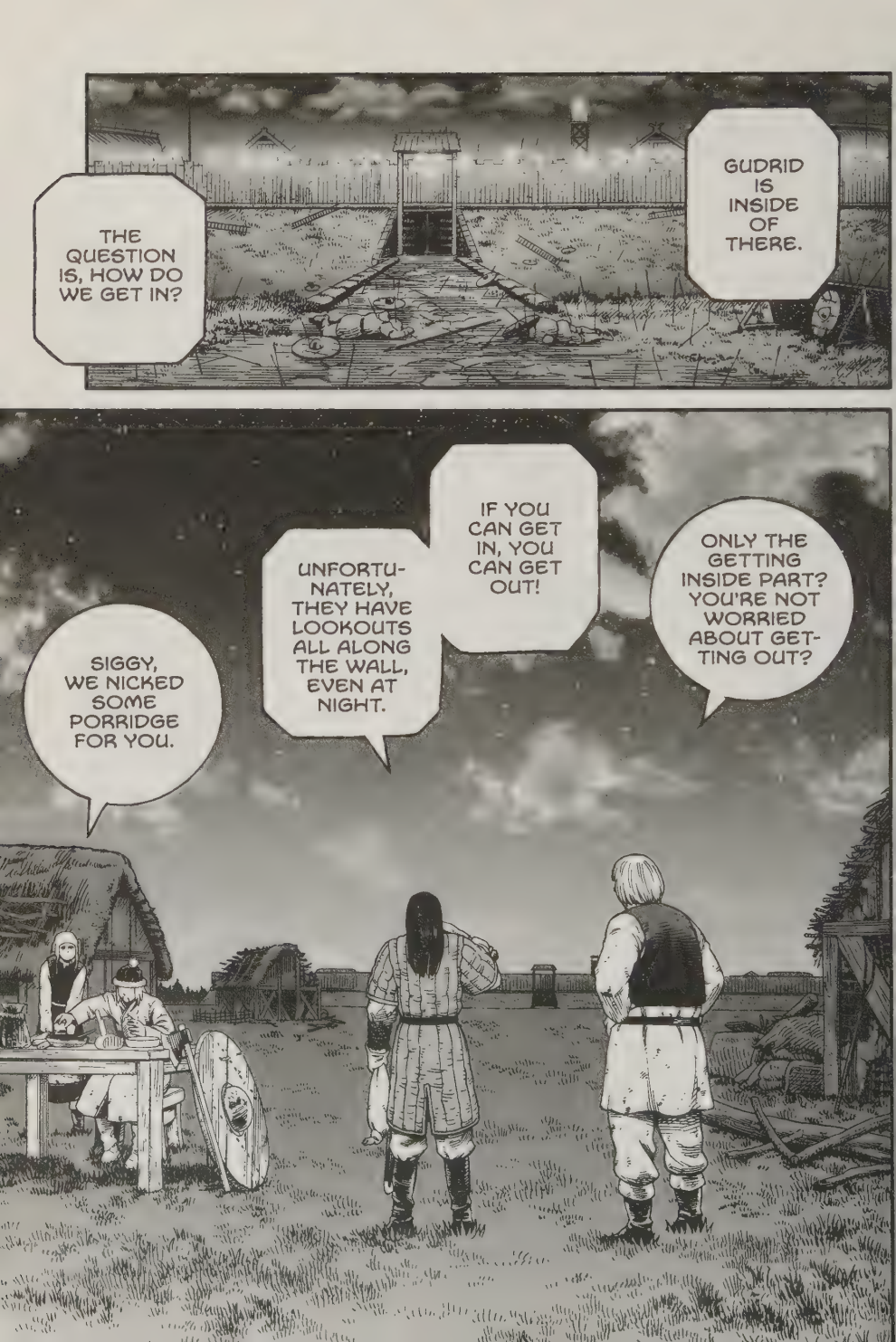

WHAT? DO YOU PEOPLE NEVER LEARN?
YOU WANT TO SUE FOR PEACE AGAIN?

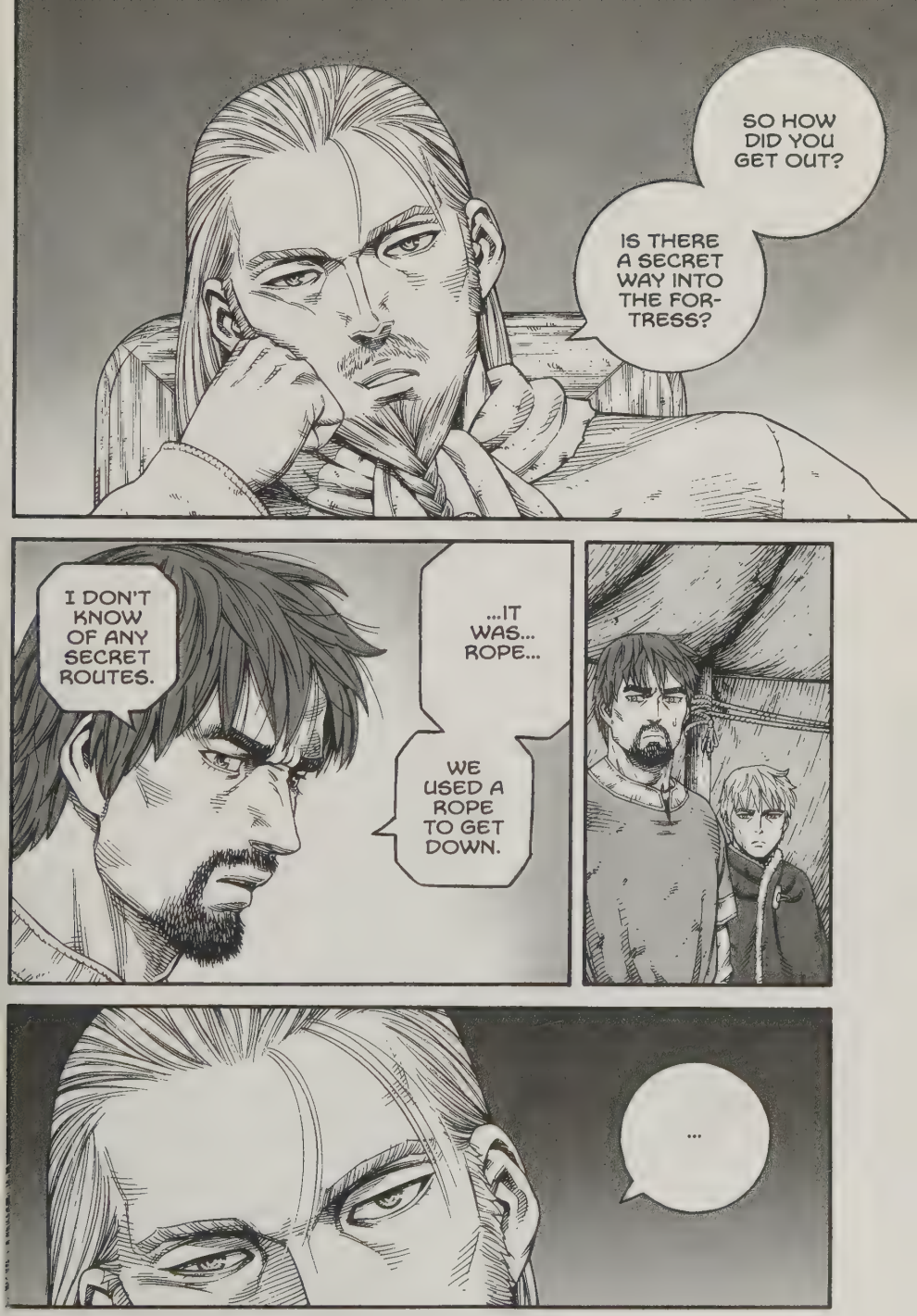

HOW DID YOU DO IT?
TELL ME THIS...
YOU CLAIMED THAT YOU ESCAPED FROM THAT FORTRESS DURING THE BATTLE.

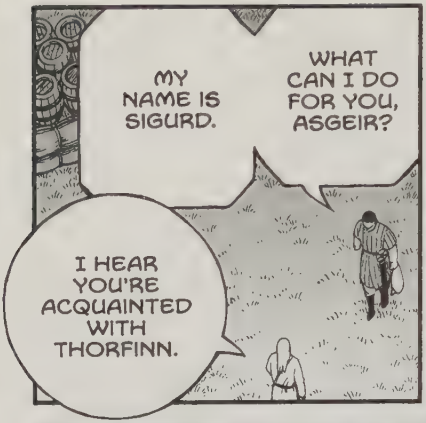


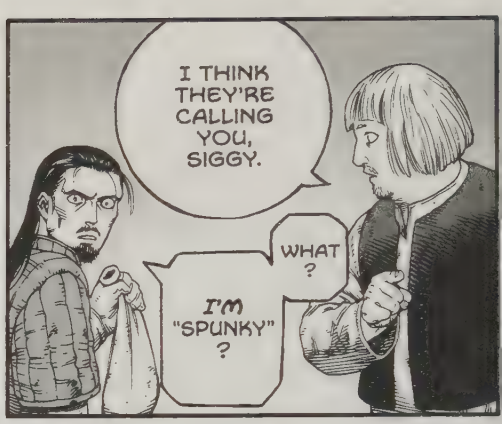

ALL FOUR GATES ARE TIGHTLY SHUT. THERE'S NOT A SINGLE HOLE IN THE DEFENSES ELSEWHERE.
IF THERE'S A WAY IN, WE WOULD HAVE FOUND IT BY NOW.

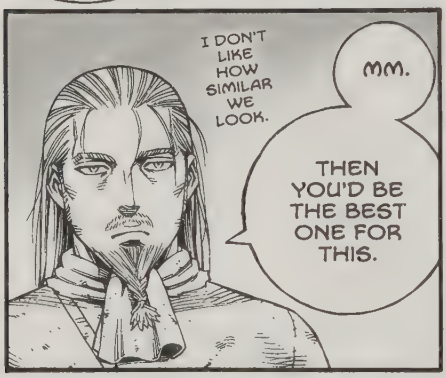
A COM-MONER...
...NO.
ARE THEY RICH? NOBLE? A CAPABLE FIGHTER?
THIS FRIEND OF YOURS...
I MEAN, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?
THEN I'D SAY THEIR CHANCES ARE... SLIM?
...UGH!

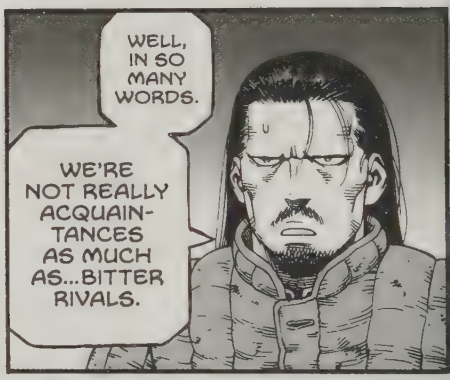

THE QUESTION IS, HOW DO WE GET IN?
GUDRID IS INSIDE OF THERE.
SIGGY, WE NICKED SOME PORRIDGE FOR YOU.
UNFORTU-NATELY, THEY HAVE LOOKOUTS ALL ALONG THE WALL, EVEN AT NIGHT.
IF YOU CAN GET IN, YOU CAN GET OUT!
ONLY THE GETTING INSIDE PART? YOU'RE NOT WORRIED ABOUT GET-TING OUT?

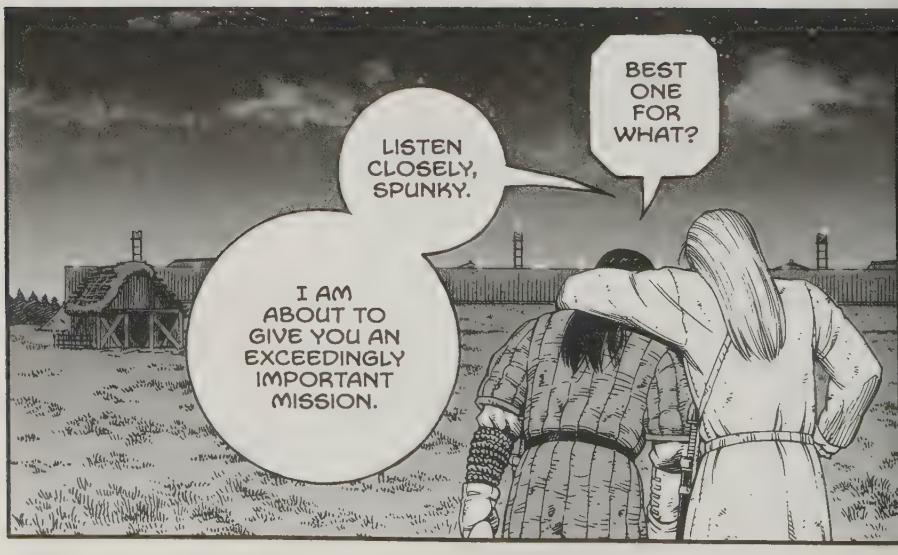

SO HOW DID YOU GET OUT?
IS THERE A SECRET WAY INTO THE FORTRESS?
I DON'T KNOW OF ANY SECRET ROUTES.
...IT WAS... ROPE...
WE USED A ROPE TO GET DOWN.
...

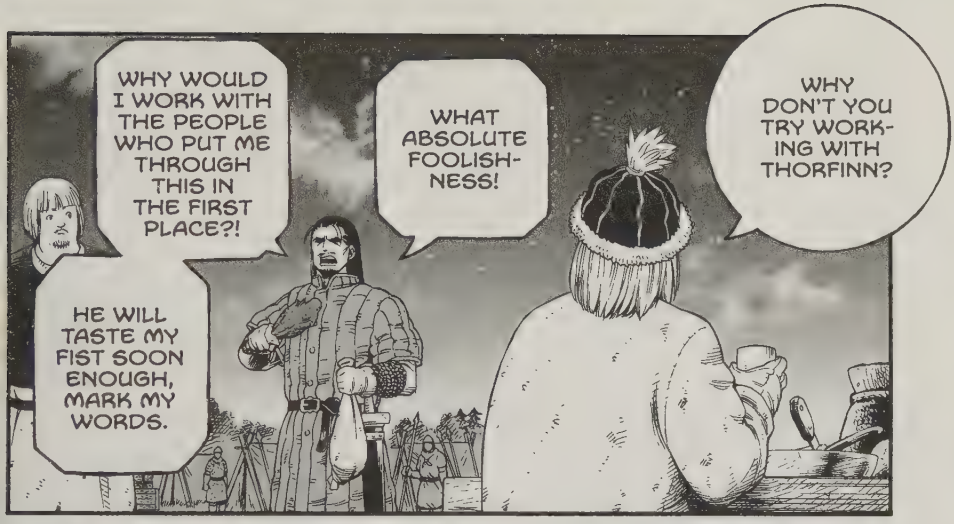

MY NAME IS SIGURD.
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, ASGEIR?
I HEAR YOU'RE ACQUAINTED WITH THORFINN.


I THINK THEY'RE CALLING YOU, SIGGY.
WHAT ?
I'M "SPUNKY" ?

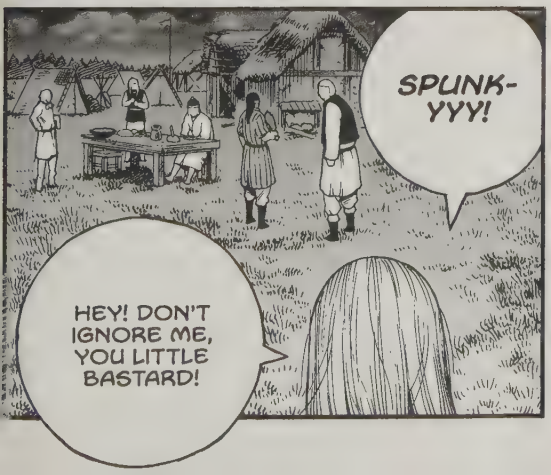

I DON'T LIKE HOW SIMILAR WE LOOK.
MM.
THEN YOU'D BE THE BEST ONE FOR THIS.


WELL, IN SO MANY WORDS.
WE'RE NOT REALLY ACQUAIN-TANCES AS MUCH AS...BITTER RIVALS.

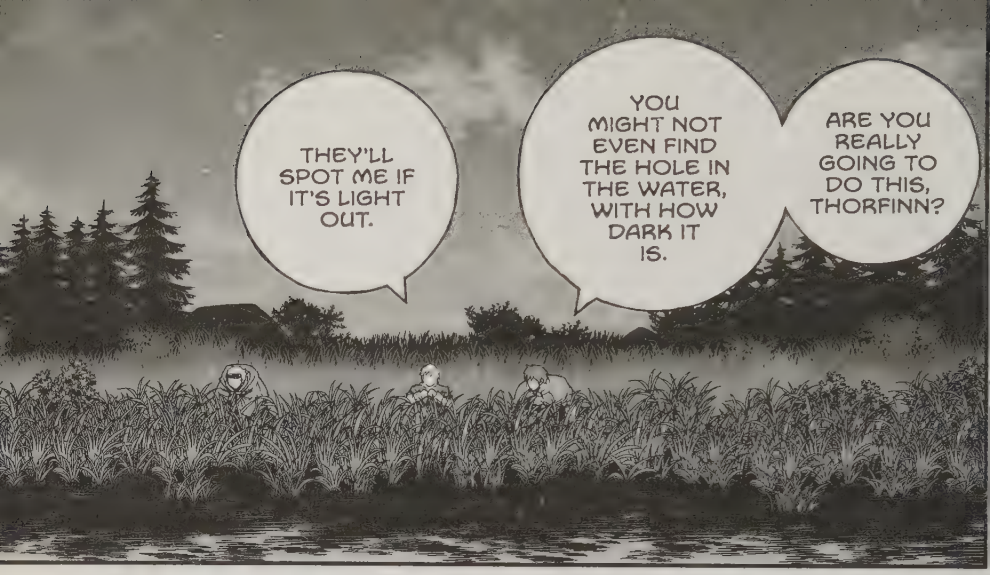

BEST ONE FOR WHAT?
LISTEN CLOSELY, SPUNKY.
I AM ABOUT TO GIVE YOU AN EXCEEDINGLY IMPORTANT MISSION.

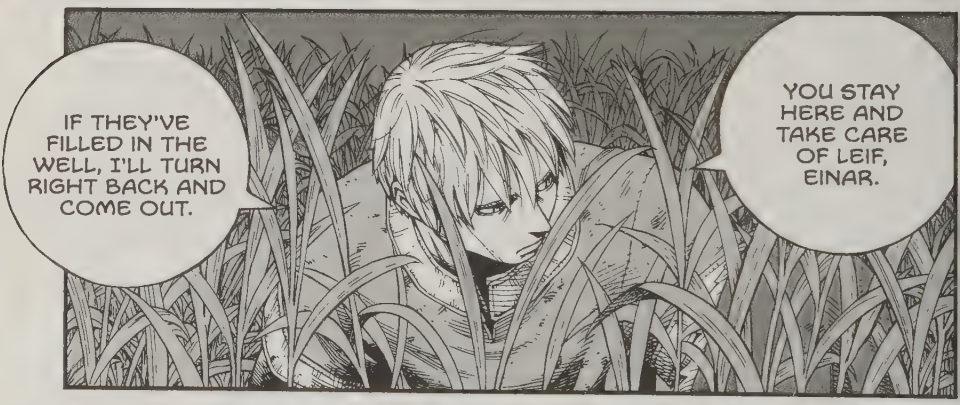

WHY WOULD I WORK WITH THE PEOPLE WHO PUT ME THROUGH THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
HE WILL TASTE MY FIST SOON ENOUGH, MARK MY WORDS.
WHAT ABSOLUTE FOOLISHNESS!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY WORKING WITH THORFINN?

...MAKES IT A TAD MORE DIFFICULT TO MESS WITH HIM...
MUNCH
ON THE OTHER HAND...
...I'LL ADMIT THAT LEARNING HE'S A RELATIVE OF LORD THORKELL...


SPUNKYYY!
HEY! DON'T IGNORE ME, YOU LITTLE BASTARD!

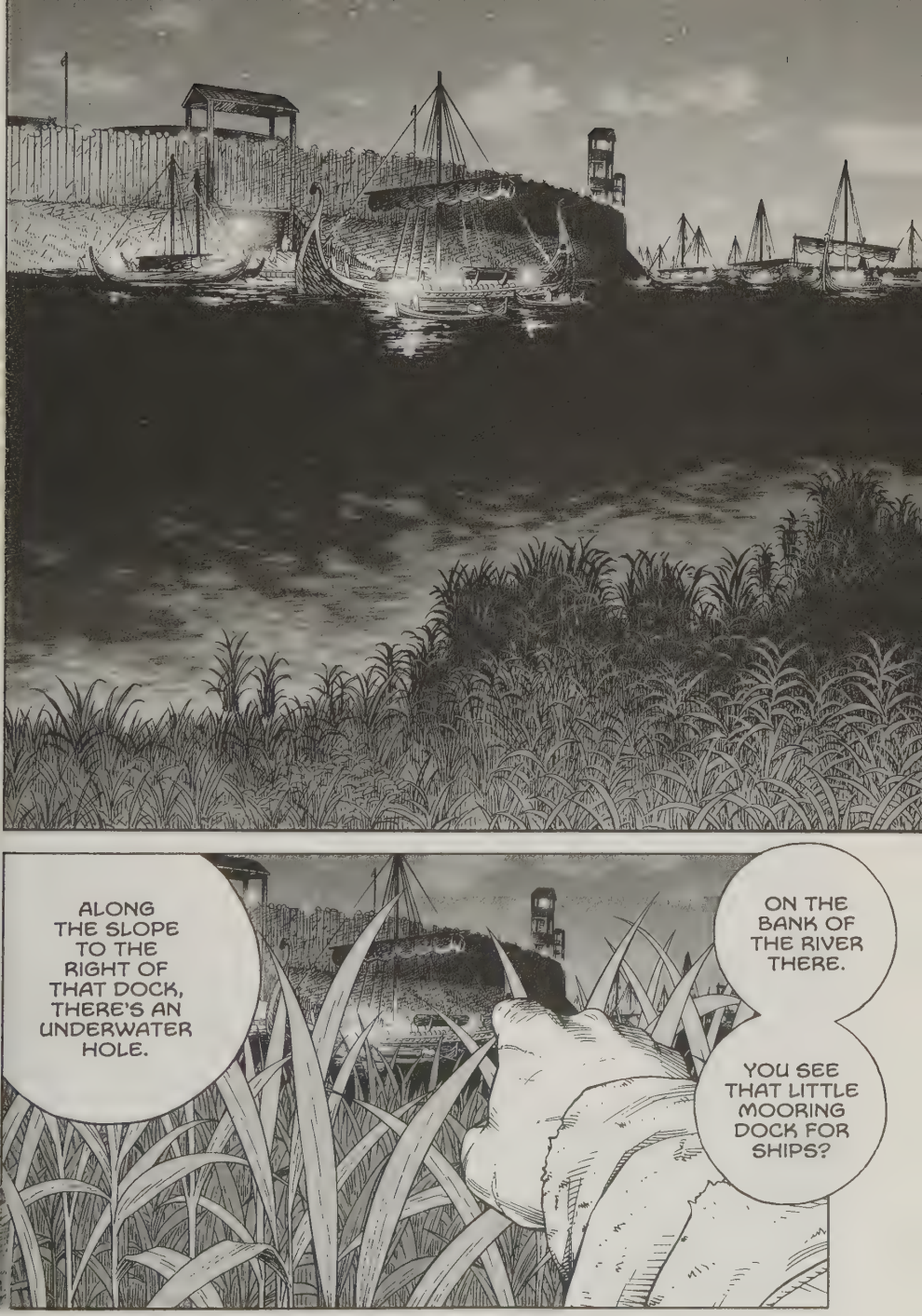
HEY, THERE! SPUNKY!
AH, THERE HE IS.


THEY'LL SPOT ME IF IT'S LIGHT OUT.
YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN FIND THE HOLE IN THE WATER, WITH HOW DARK IT IS.
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO DO THIS, THORFINN?


IF THEY'VE FILLED IN THE WELL, I'LL TURN RIGHT BACK AND COME OUT.
YOU STAY HERE AND TAKE CARE OF LEIF, EINAR.

DON'T LOOK AT ME THAT WAY.
I'LL BE FINE. THIS WILL WORK.

...


ALONG THE SLOPE TO THE RIGHT OF THAT DOCK, THERE'S AN UNDERWATER HOLE.
ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER THERE.
YOU SEE THAT LITTLE MOORING DOCK FOR SHIPS?

LOOK! THEY'RE GOING INTO THE WATER.

SOMEONE TAKE MY STUFF!

I'M GOING TO LOSE SIGHT OF HIM!

SO THE SECRET ROUTE MUST BE UNDER-WATER, THEN.

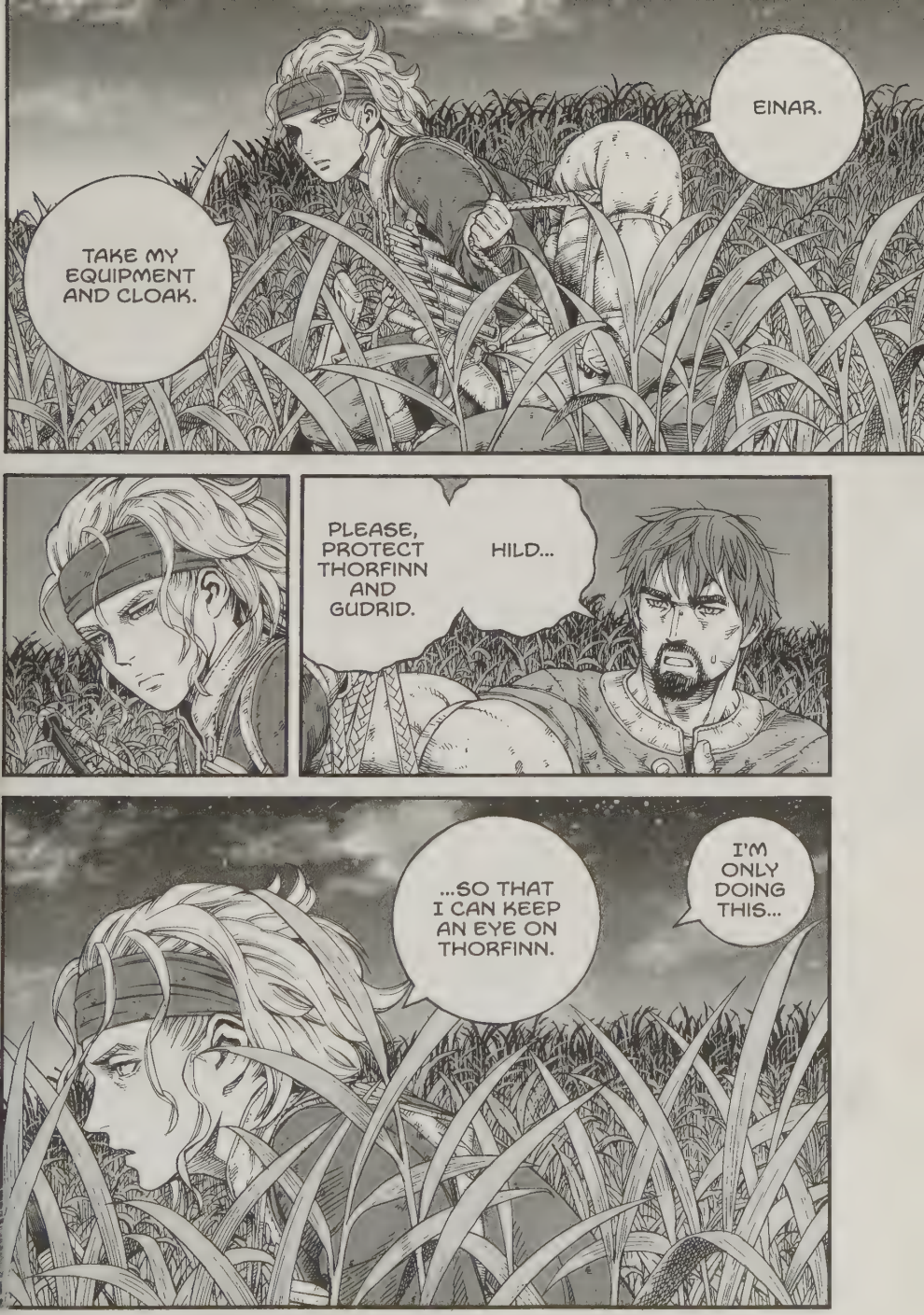
MY SPECIAL MISSION IS TO TAIL THORFINN AND DETERMINE IF THERE IS A SECRET ENTRANCE OR NOT.

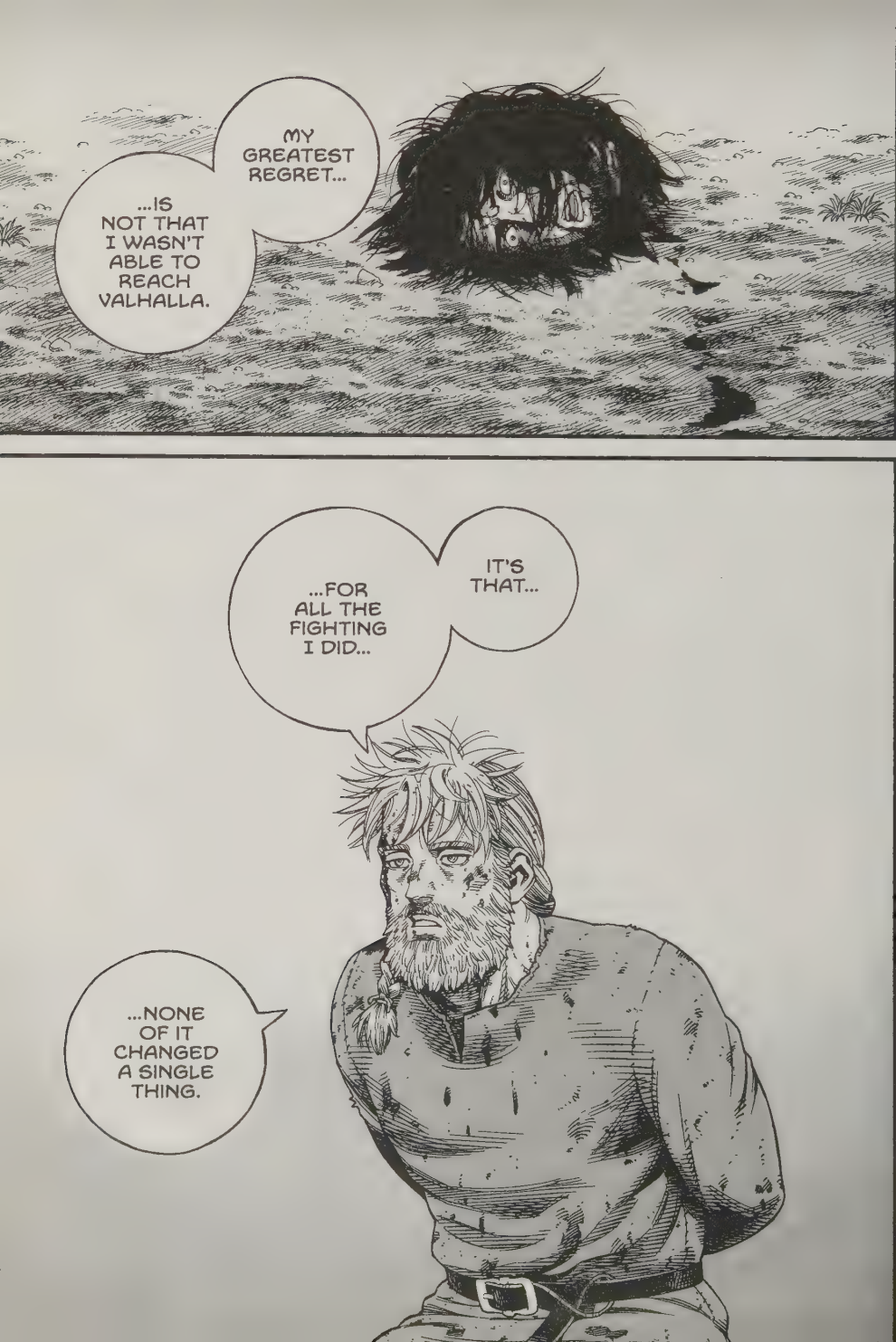
OF COURSE I AM.

YOU'RE GOING AFTER HIM, SIGGY?

WHAT ?!

I CAN'T COMPLETE THE MISSION UNLESS I FIND OUT THE TRUTH.


EINAR.
TAKE MY EQUIPMENT AND CLOAK.
PLEASE, PROTECT THORFINN AND GUDRID.
HILD...
I'M ONLY DOING THIS...
...SO THAT I CAN KEEP AN EYE ON THORFINN.


MY GREATEST REGRET...
...IS NOT THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO REACH VALHALLA.
IT'S THAT...
...FOR ALL THE FIGHTING I DID...
...NONE OF IT CHANGED A SINGLE THING.

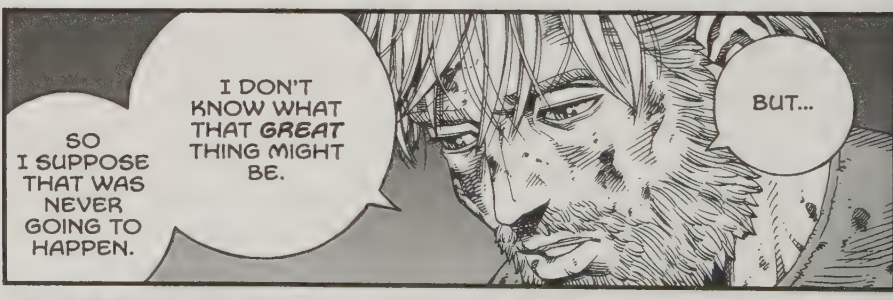
I WON'T LET HIM HOG ALL THE GLORY!
BESIDES, I HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO SAVE MY BRIDE!
SPLASH
SPLOSH
OH, BOY...

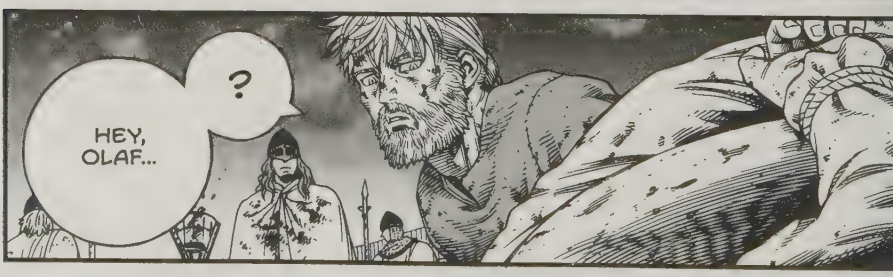
IF ONLY I COULD HAVE USED MY LIFE...

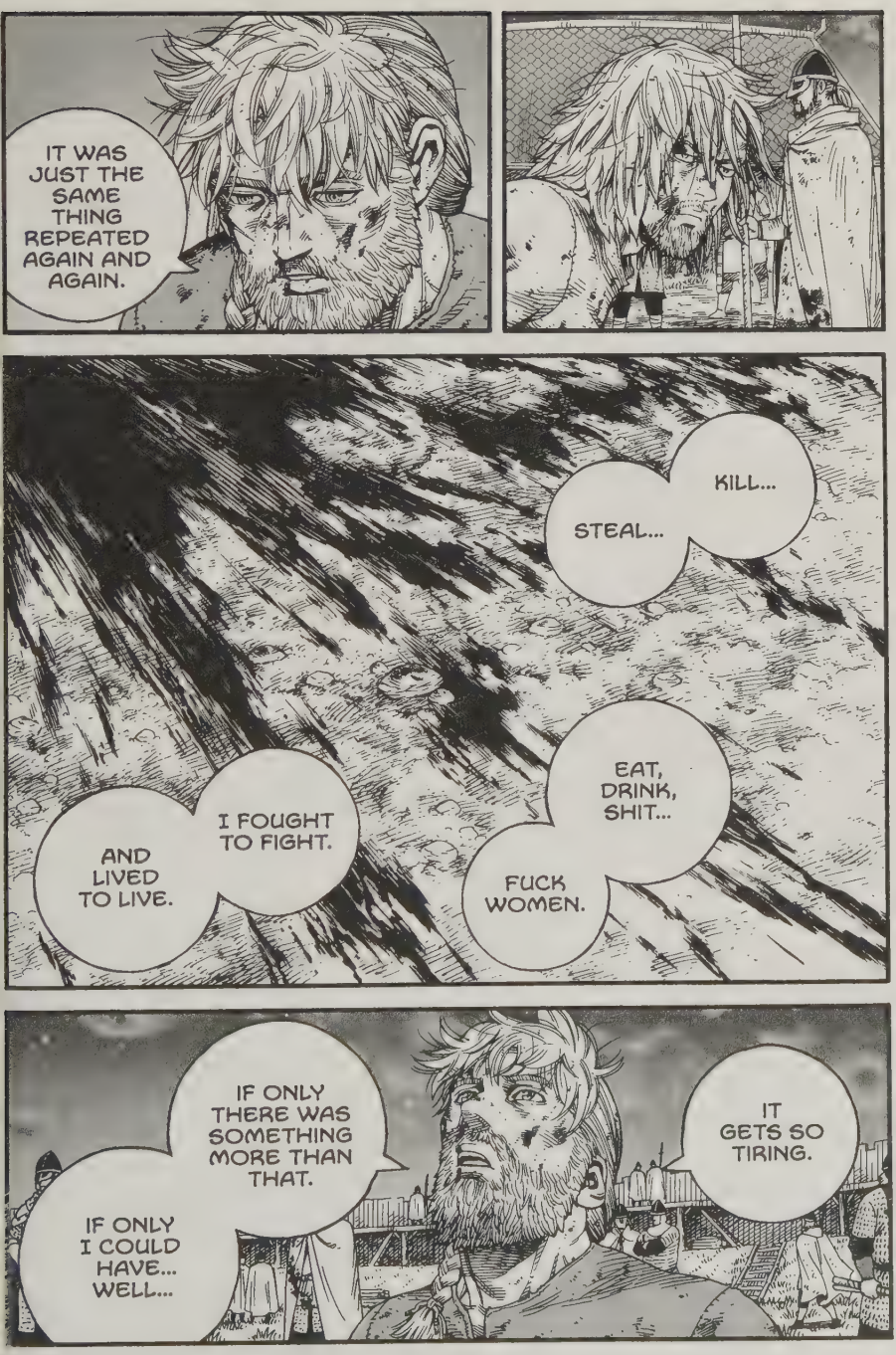
...NOT FOR PURSUIT OF VALHALLA...

...BUT SOMETHING MORE, BEYOND EVEN THAT...

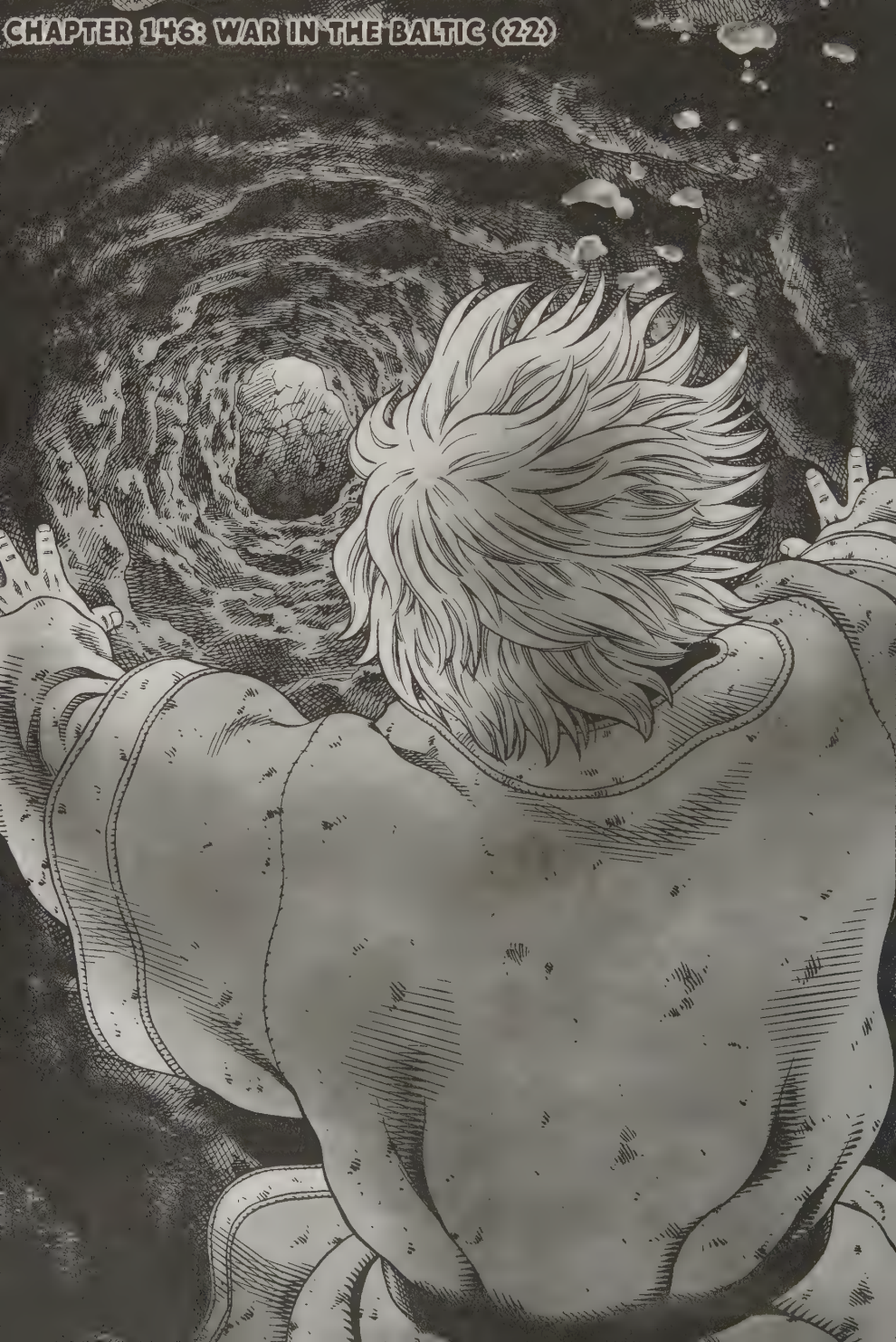
SOMETHING GREATER.



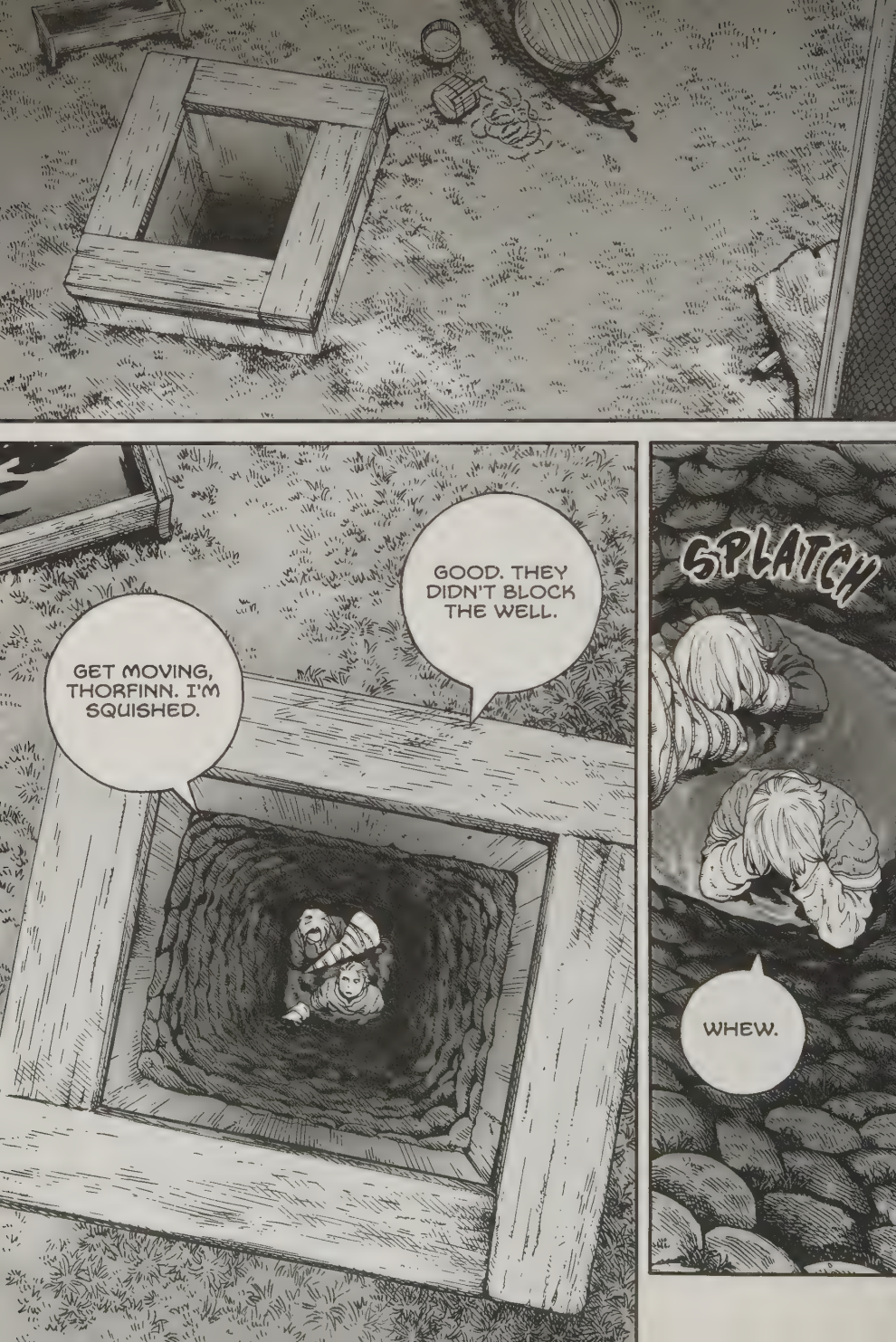



IT WAS JUST THE SAME THING REPEATED AGAIN AND AGAIN.
KILL...
STEAL...
EAT, DRINK, SHIT...
FUCK WOMEN.
I FOUGHT TO FIGHT.
AND LIVED TO LIVE.
IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT.
IT GETS SO TIRING.
IF ONLY I COULD HAVE... WELL...

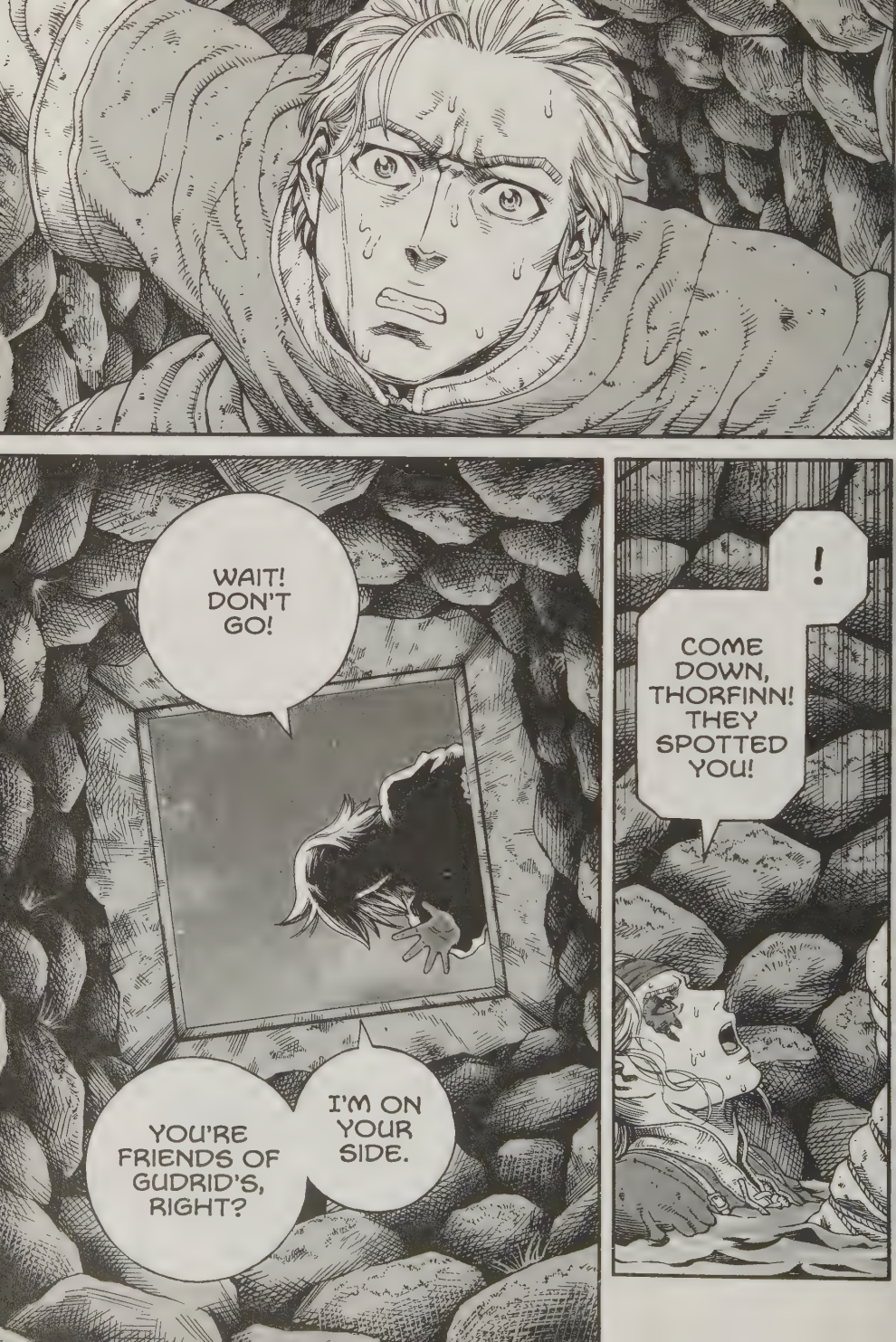
CHAPTER 146: WAR IN THE BALTIC (22)

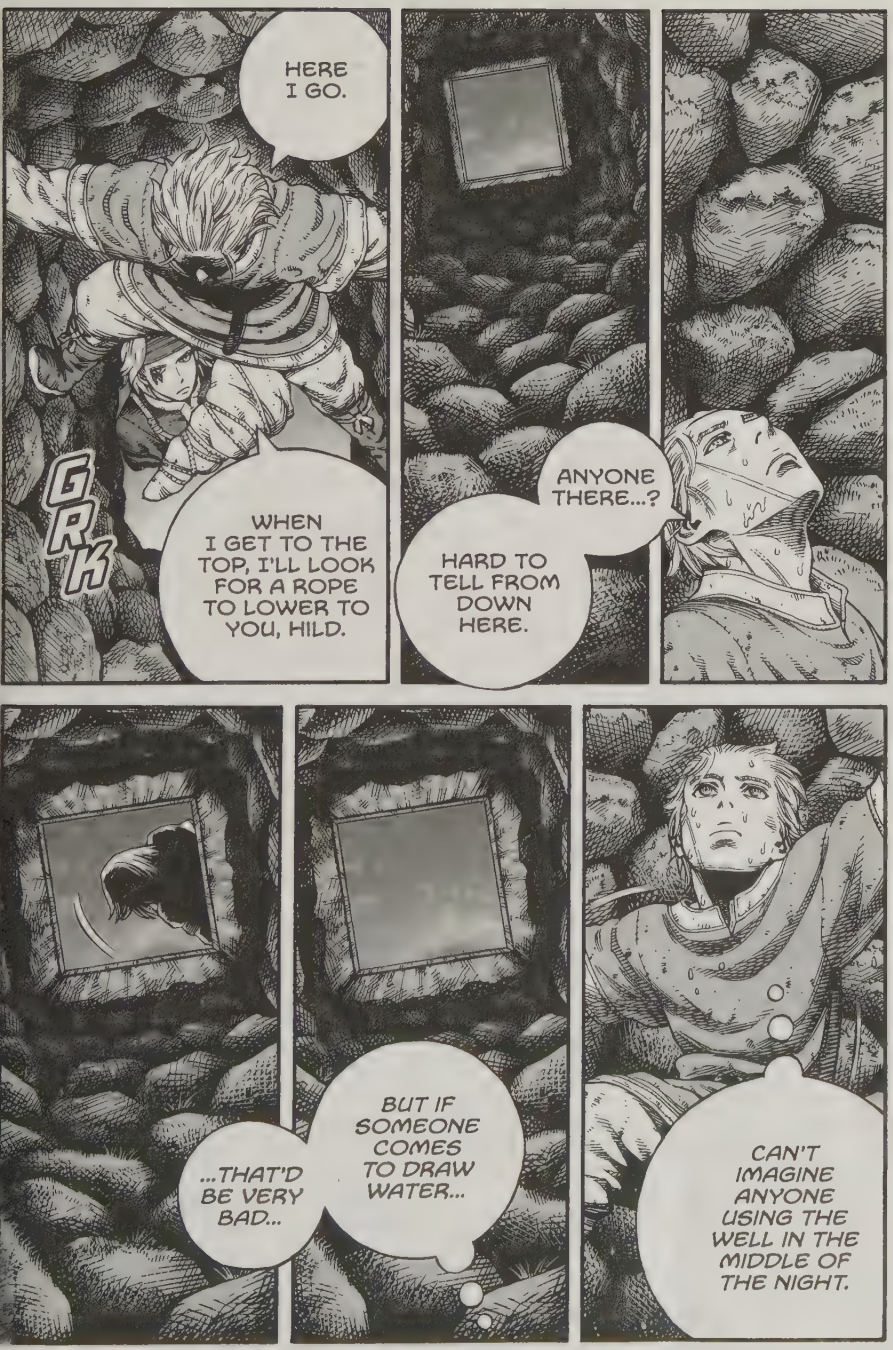


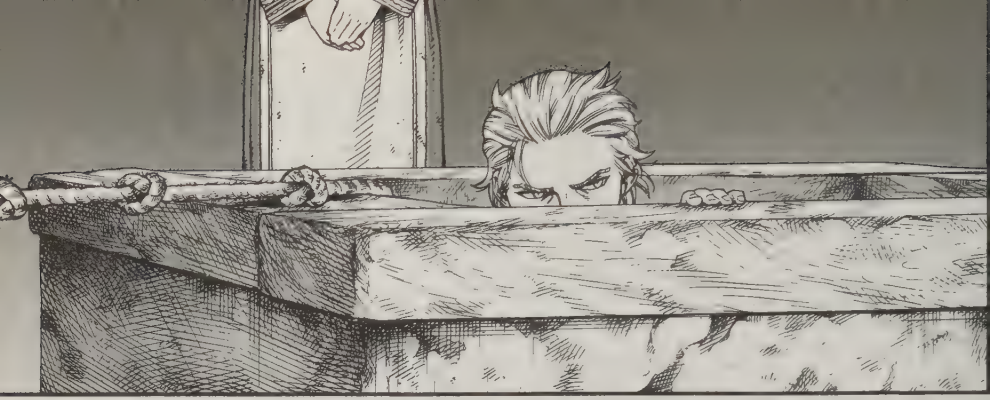
DAMN.
I FORGOT TO LOOK.
...OH...
SHUNK

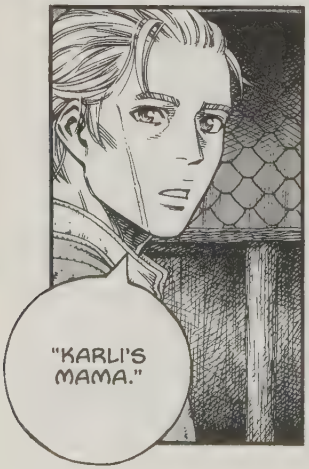

GOOD. THEY DIDN'T BLOCK THE WELL.
GET MOVING, THORFINN. I'M SQUISHED.
SPLATCH
WHEW.

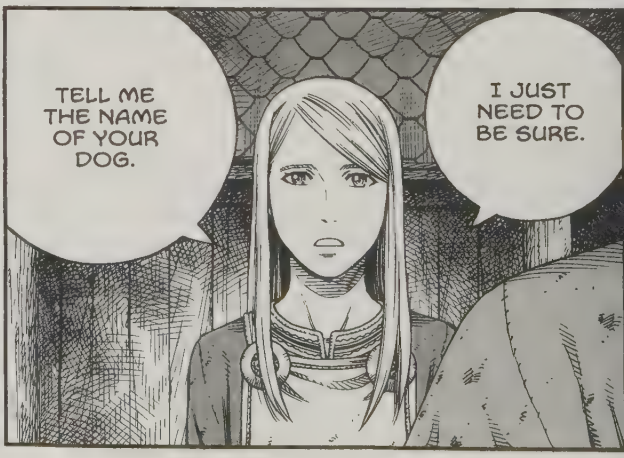
FWOOOM

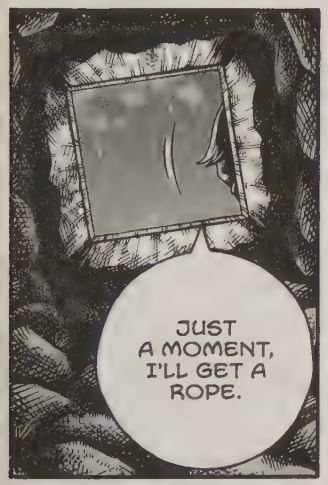

WAIT! DON'T GO!
YOU'RE FRIENDS OF GUDRID'S, RIGHT?
I'M ON YOUR SIDE.
!
COME DOWN, THORFINN! THEY SPOTTED YOU!


HERE I GO.
GRK
WHEN I GET TO THE TOP, I'LL LOOK FOR A ROPE TO LOWER TO YOU, HILD.
ANYONE THERE...?
HARD TO TELL FROM DOWN HERE.
...THAT'D BE VERY BAD...
BUT IF SOMEONE COMES TO DRAW WATER...
CAN'T IMAGINE ANYONE USING THE WELL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.



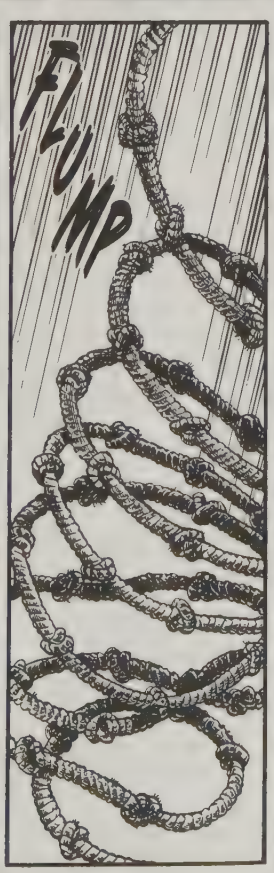

"KARLI'S MAMA."

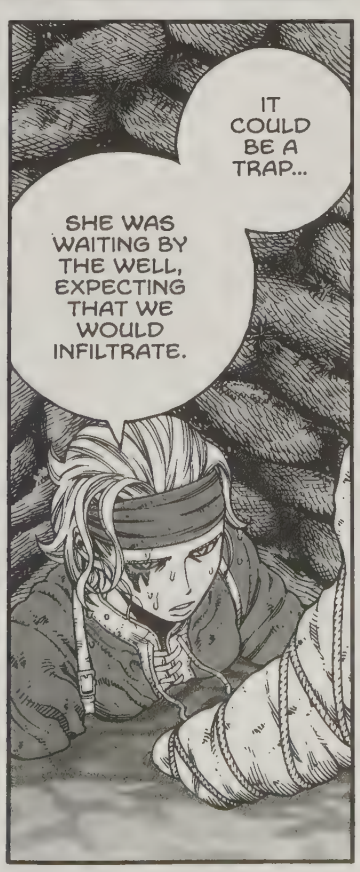

TELL ME THE NAME OF YOUR DOG.
I JUST NEED TO BE SURE.

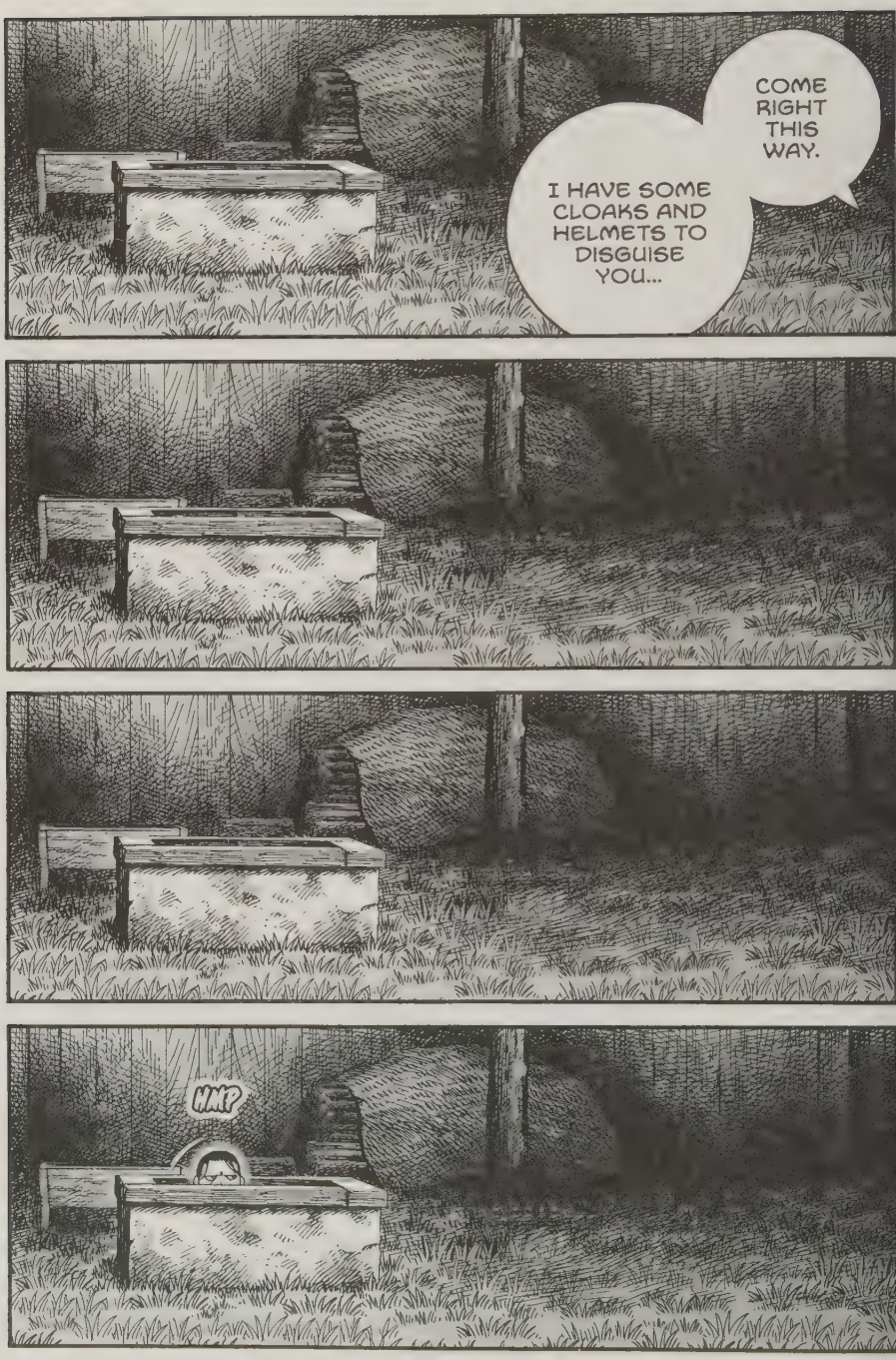

JUST A MOMENT, I'LL GET A ROPE.

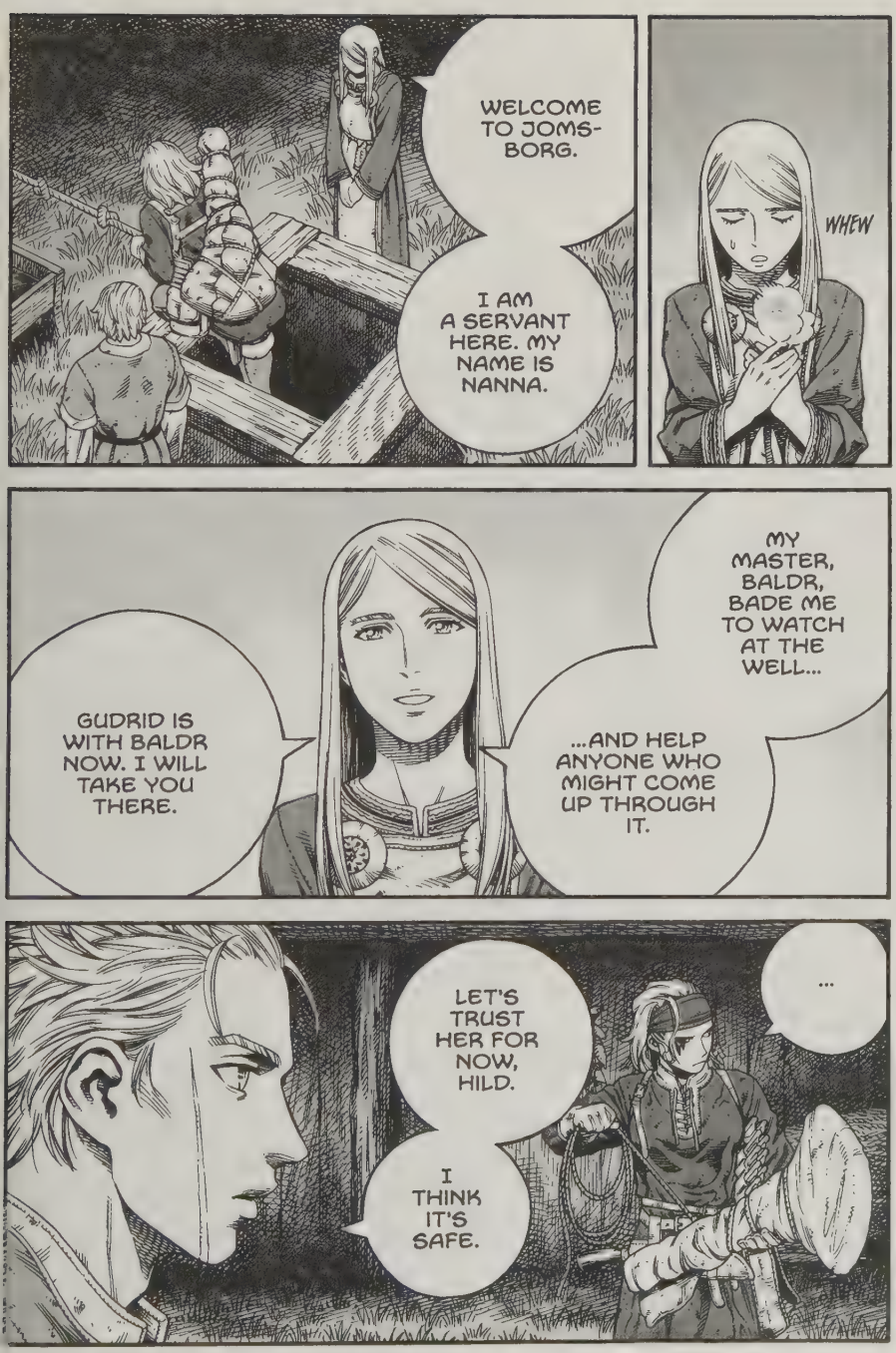
...
HUH?

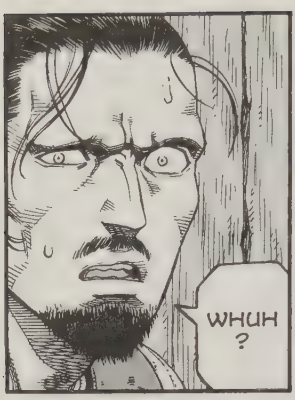
...

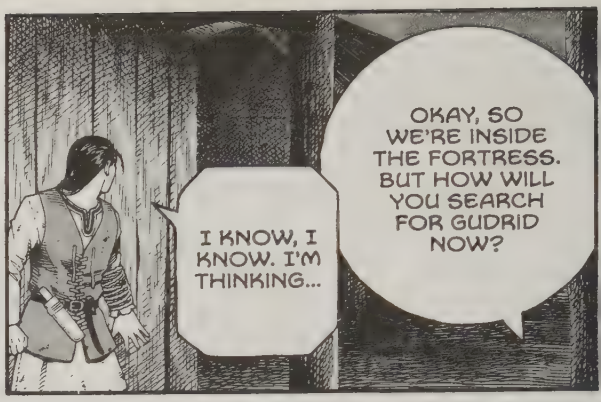

FLUMP

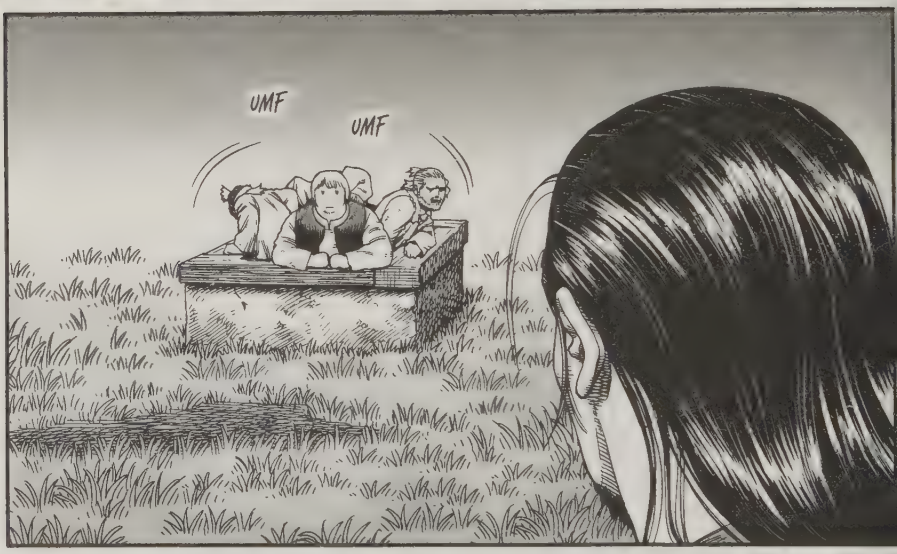

IT COULD BE A TRAP...
SHE WAS WAITING BY THE WELL, EXPECTING THAT WE WOULD INFILTRATE.

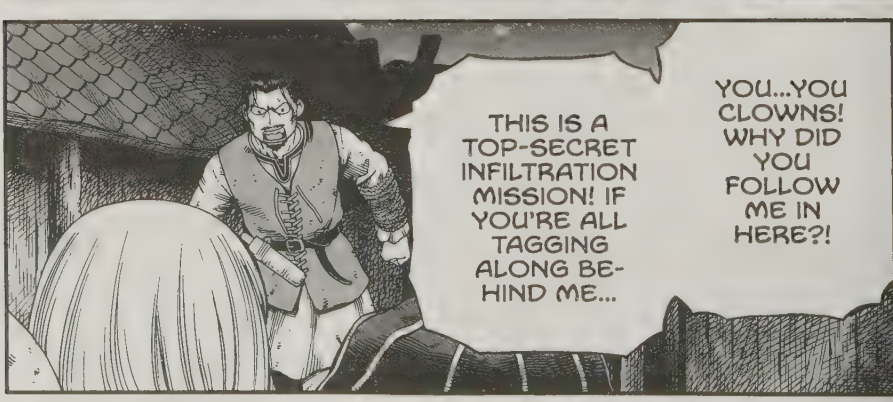

I HAVE SOME CLOAKS AND HELMETS TO DISGUISE YOU...
COME RIGHT THIS WAY.
HMP

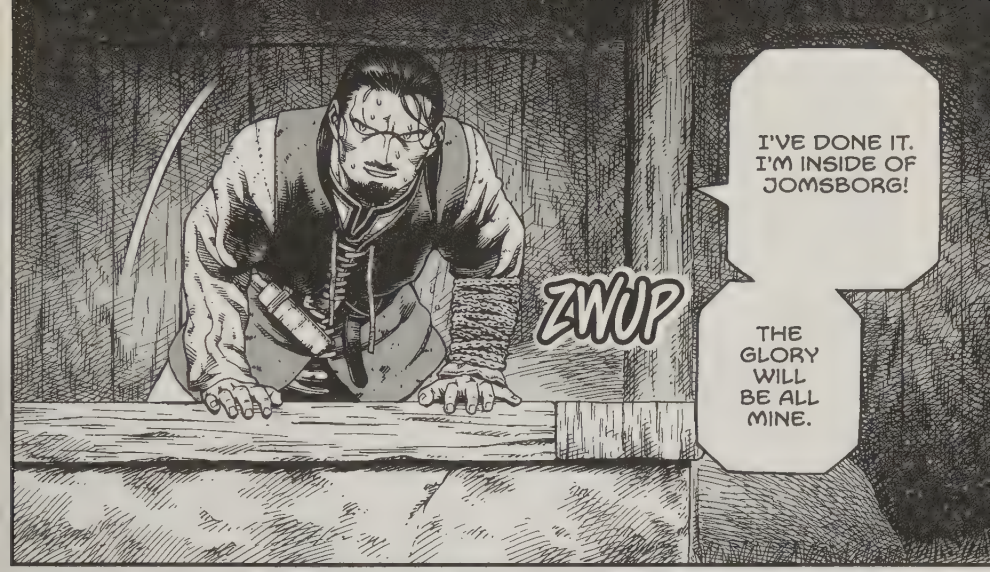

WELCOME TO JOMS-BORG.
I AM A SERVANT HERE. MY NAME IS NANNA.
WHEW
MY MASTER, BALDR, BADE ME TO WATCH AT THE WELL...
...AND HELP ANYONE WHO MIGHT COME UP THROUGH IT.
GUDRID IS WITH BALDR NOW. I WILL TAKE YOU THERE.
...
LET'S TRUST HER FOR NOW, HILD.
I THINK IT'S SAFE.

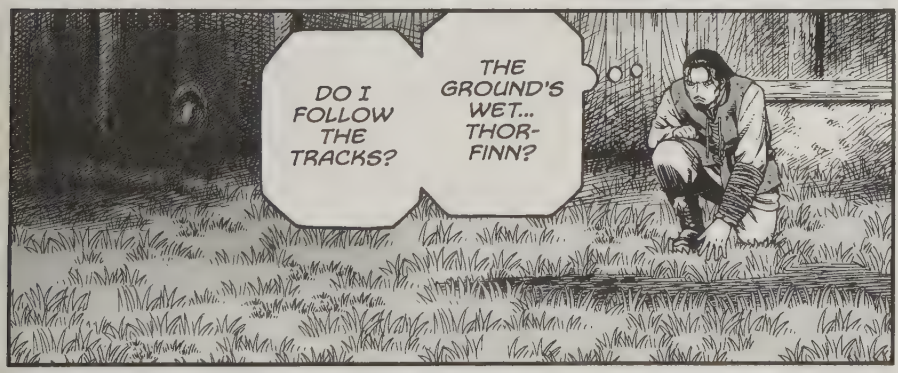

WHUH ?


I KNOW, I KNOW. I'M THINKING...
OKAY, SO WE'RE INSIDE THE FORTRESS. BUT HOW WILL YOU SEARCH FOR GUDRID NOW?

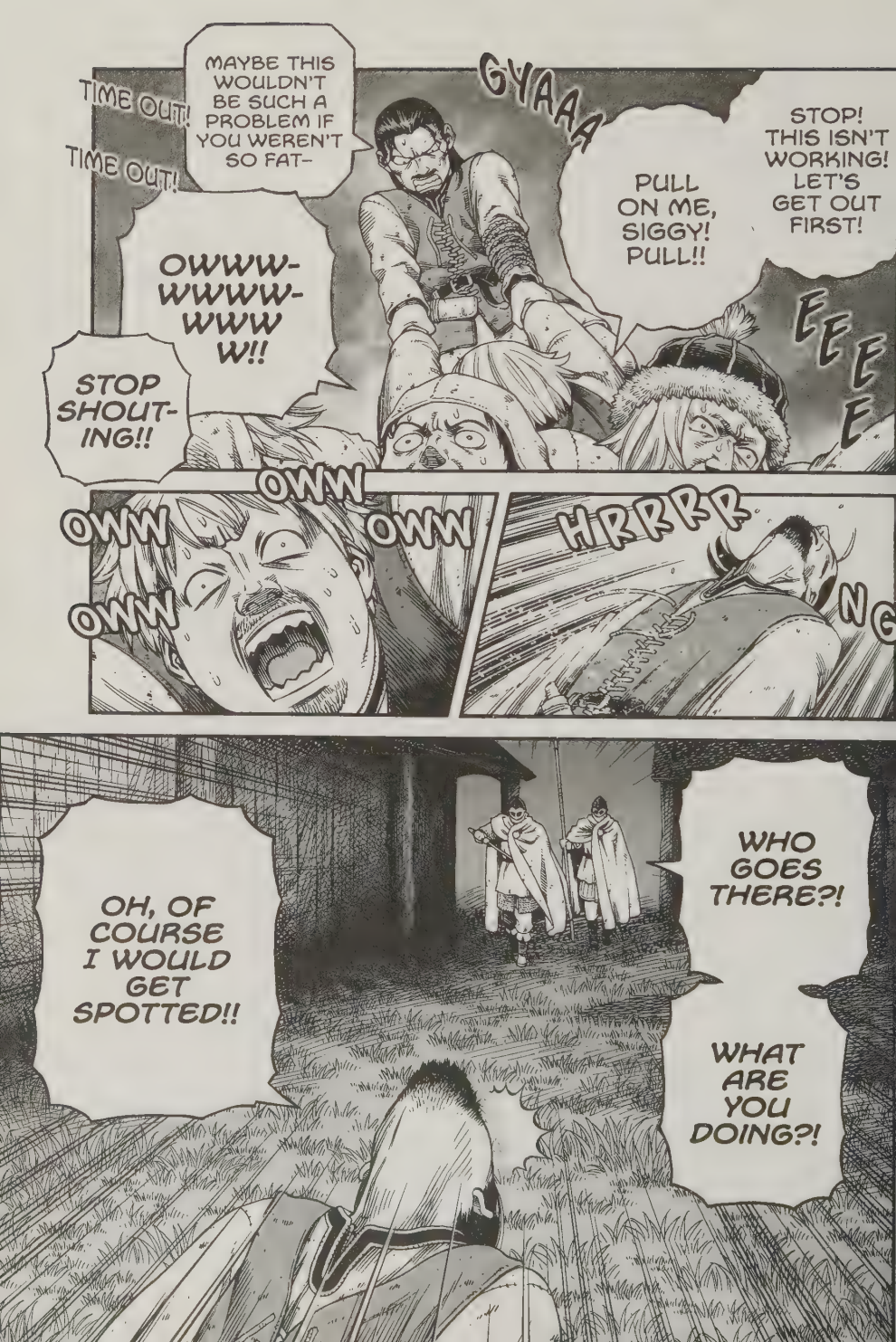

UMF
UMF

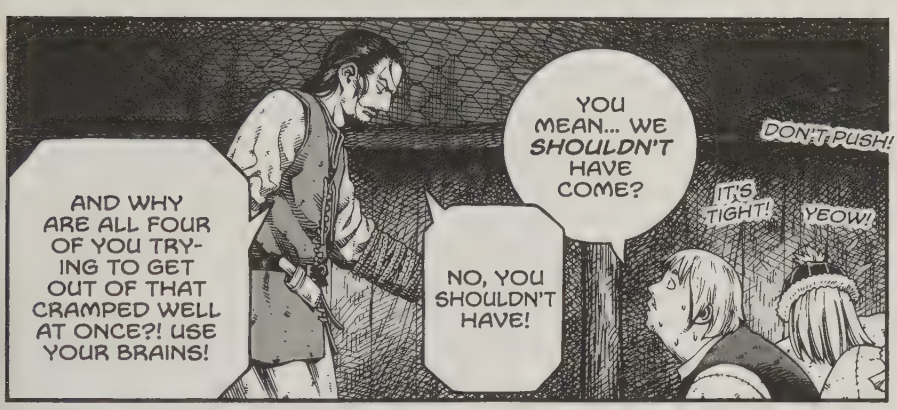

THIS IS A TOP-SECRET INFILTRATION MISSION! IF YOU'RE ALL TAGGING ALONG BEHIND ME...
YOU...YOU CLOWNS! WHY DID YOU FOLLOW ME IN HERE?!

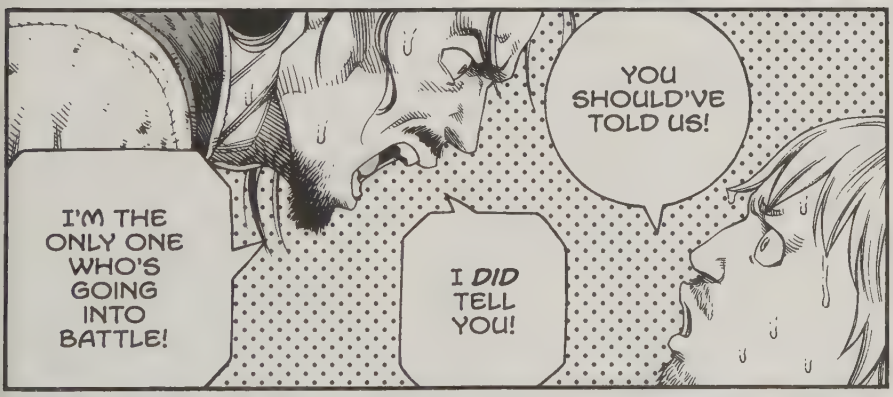

ZWUP
I'VE DONE IT. I'M INSIDE OF JOMSBORG!
THE GLORY WILL BE ALL MINE.

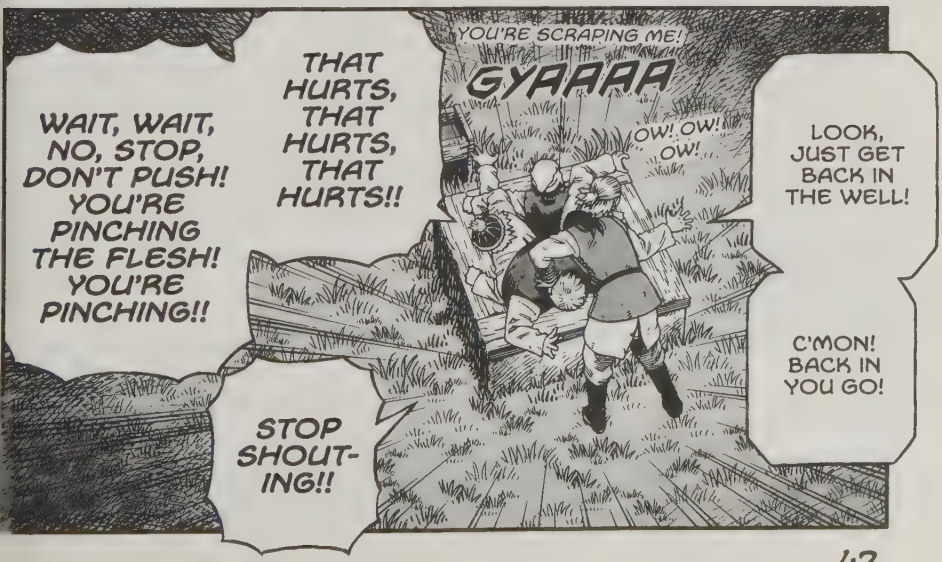

DO I FOLLOW THE TRACKS?
THE GROUND'S WET... THOR-FINN?

NO POINT IN FOLLOWING HIM ANY-MORE...
NO...
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE GUDRID IS, EITHER.


TIME OUT!
TIME OUT!
MAYBE THIS WOULDN'T BE SUCH A PROBLEM IF YOU WEREN'T SO FAT–
GYAAA
STOP! THIS ISN'T WORKING! LET'S GET OUT FIRST!
PULL ON ME, SIGGY! PULL!!
OWWW-WWWW-WWW W!!
STOP SHOUT-ING!!
EEEE
OWW
OWW
OWW
HRRRR
OH, OF COURSE I WOULD GET SPOTTED!!
WHO GOES THERE?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

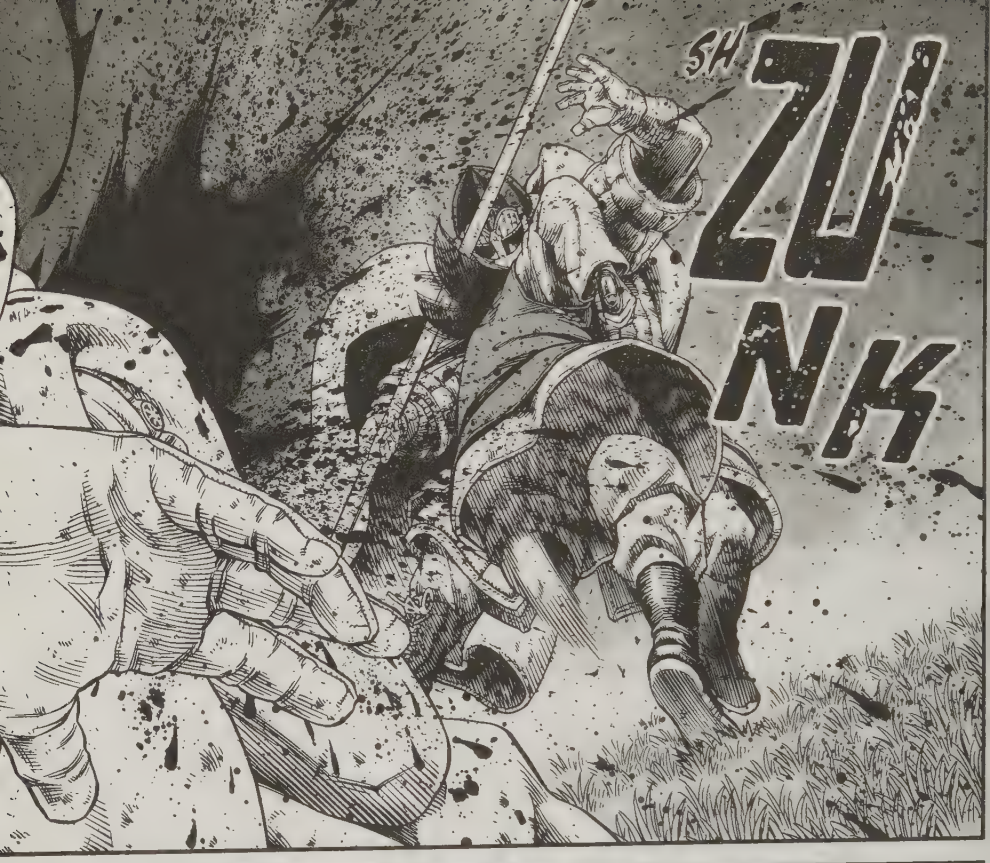

AND WHY ARE ALL FOUR OF YOU TRYING TO GET OUT OF THAT CRAMPED WELL AT ONCE?! USE YOUR BRAINS!
NO, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE!
YOU MEAN... WE SHOULDN'T HAVE COME?
DON'T PUSH!
IT'S TIGHT!
YEOW!

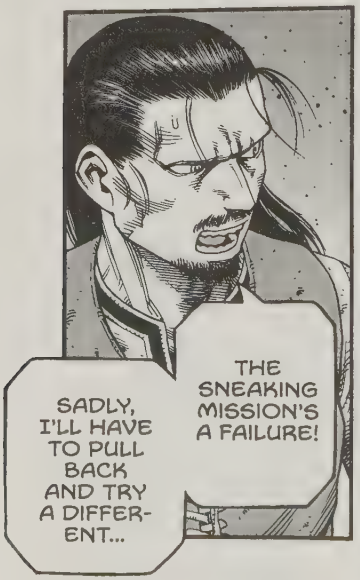

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GOING INTO BATTLE!
I DID TELL YOU!
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD US!


WAIT, WAIT, NO, STOP, DON'T PUSH! YOU'RE PINCHING THE FLESH! YOU'RE PINCHING!!
THAT HURTS, THAT HURTS, THAT HURTS!!
YOU'RE SCRAPING ME!
GYAAAA
OW! OW! OW!
LOOK, JUST GET BACK IN THE WELL!
C'MON! BACK IN YOU GO!
STOP SHOUTING!!

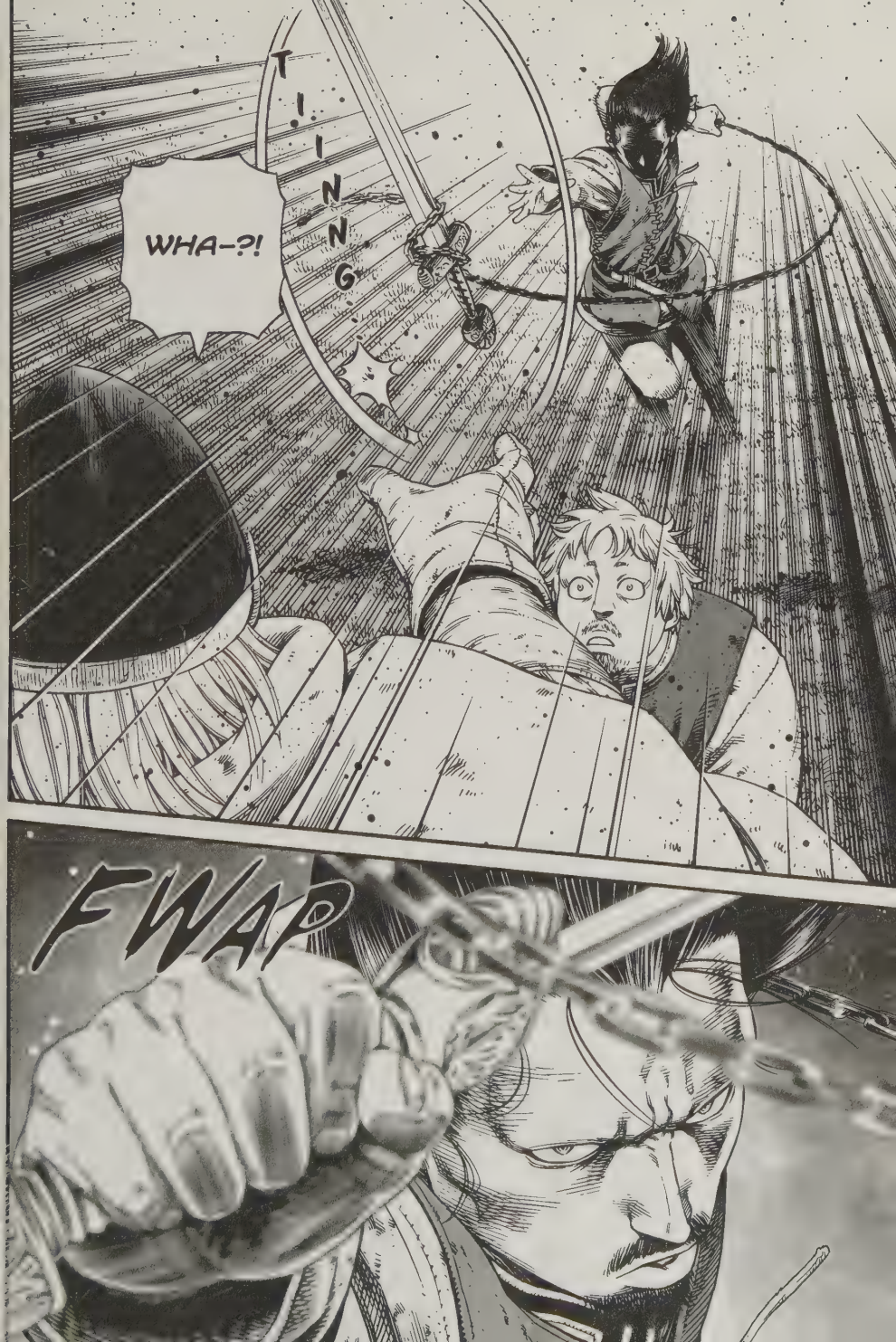
...
ROLLA
ROLLA
ROLLA
PEMP
G...
GOOD EVE-NING.
SHAK
SHLANG

AAAH!
WE'RE FALL-ING!
SKRRSH
SHOOMP
AH.
OOF!
AAAA
THUD
ROLLA
ROLLA
ROLLA
ROLLA


SH
ZU
NK


THE SNEAKING MISSION'S A FAILURE!
SADLY, I'LL HAVE TO PULL BACK AND TRY A DIFFERENT...

AIEEE!
ON YOUR FEET, FATTY! WE'RE GOING BACK!
BSHHH


T
I
I
N
N
G
WHA-?!
FWAP

CHAPTER 147: WAR IN THE BALTIC (23)

KA AA

THEY'VE KILLED TWO ALREADY!!

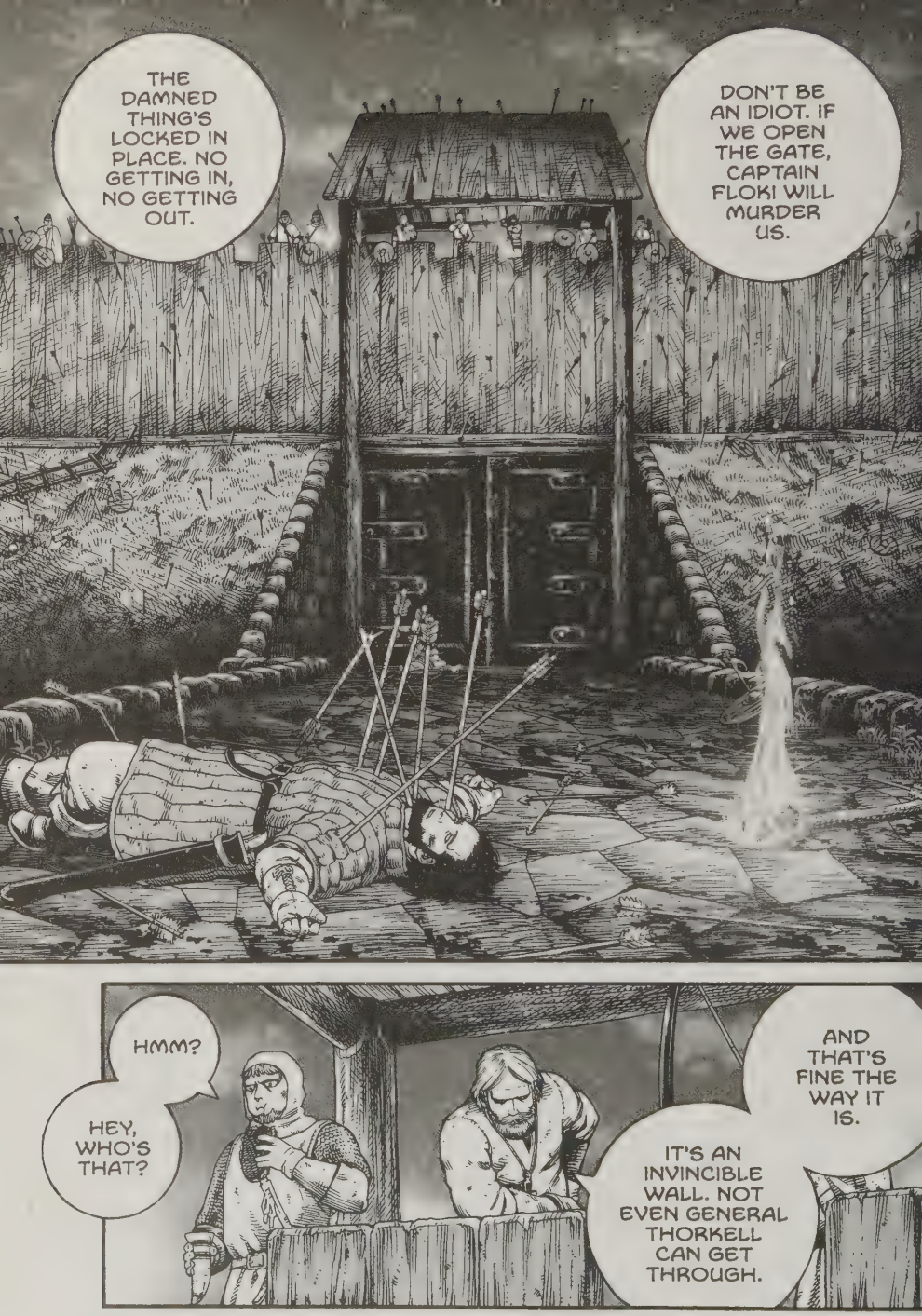
SPIES IN OUR MIDST!!

BRIG-ANDS!!

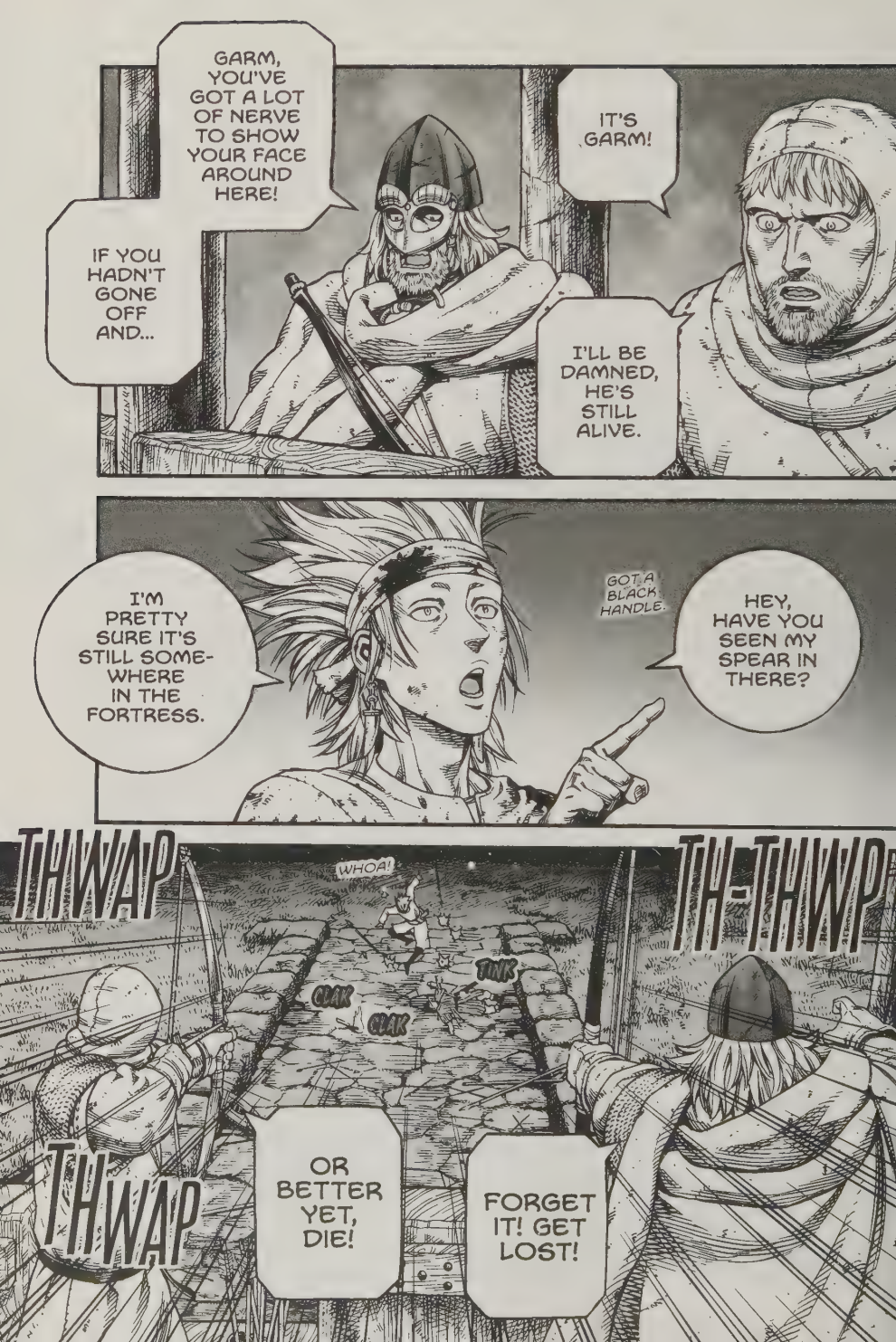
AAH

ZZSH

CLANK

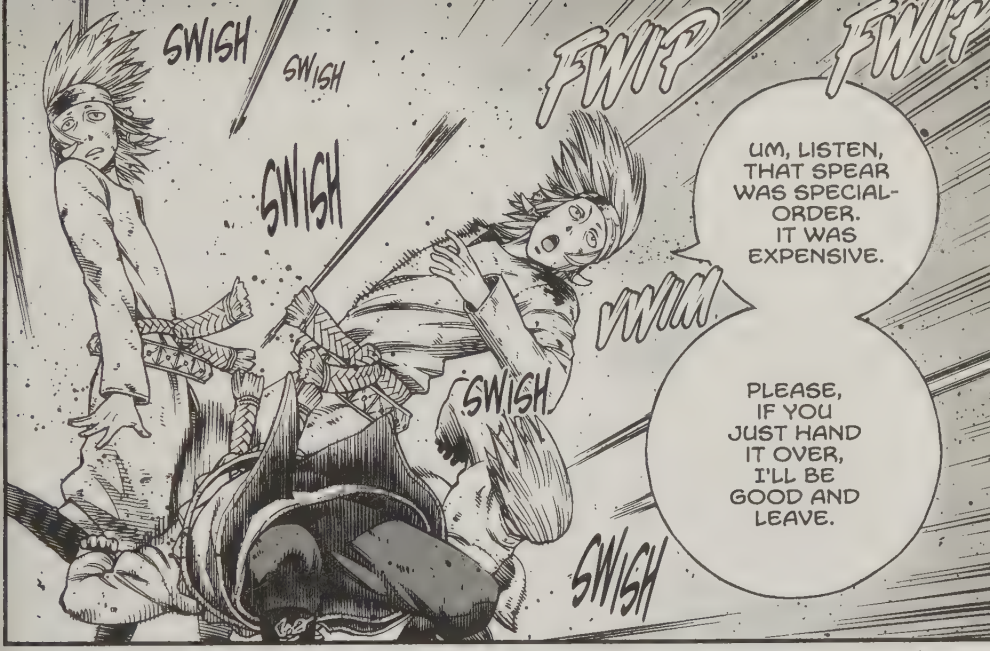

THE DAMNED THING'S LOCKED IN PLACE. NO GETTING IN, NO GETTING OUT.
DON'T BE AN IDIOT. IF WE OPEN THE GATE, CAPTAIN FLOKI WILL MURDER US.
HMM?
HEY, WHO'S THAT?
AND THAT'S FINE THE WAY IT IS.
IT'S AN INVINCIBLE WALL. NOT EVEN GENERAL THORKELL CAN GET THROUGH.

SHUD
BAM
BAM
BAM
SHUD
SHUD
IT'S NOT FAIR. HIS HEAD'S TURNED THE OTHER WAY.
HA-HA! YER AIM'S PISS-POOR.
DAMN. CAN'T HIT HIS EYES.
SOMEONE GO DOWN THERE AND PIVOT THE NECK THIS WAY.

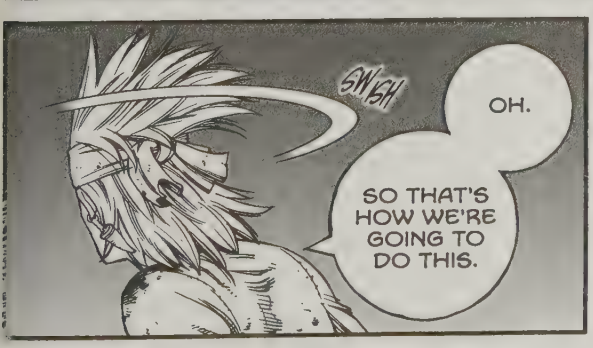

GARM, YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE TO SHOW YOUR FACE AROUND HERE!
IF YOU HADN'T GONE OFF AND...
IT'S GARM!
I'LL BE DAMNED, HE'S STILL ALIVE.
I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S STILL SOME-WHERE IN THE FORTRESS.
GOT A BLACK HANDLE.
HEY, HAVE YOU SEEN MY SPEAR IN THERE?
THWAP
WHOA!
TH-THWP
TINK
CLAK
CLAK
THWAP
OR BETTER YET, DIE!
FORGET IT! GET LOST!

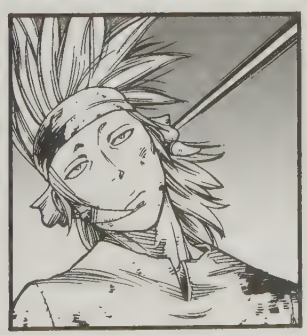
WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE?!
AN ENVOY...?
ENEMY SOLDIER APPROACHING!
HIYA.
EVENING, GENTS.

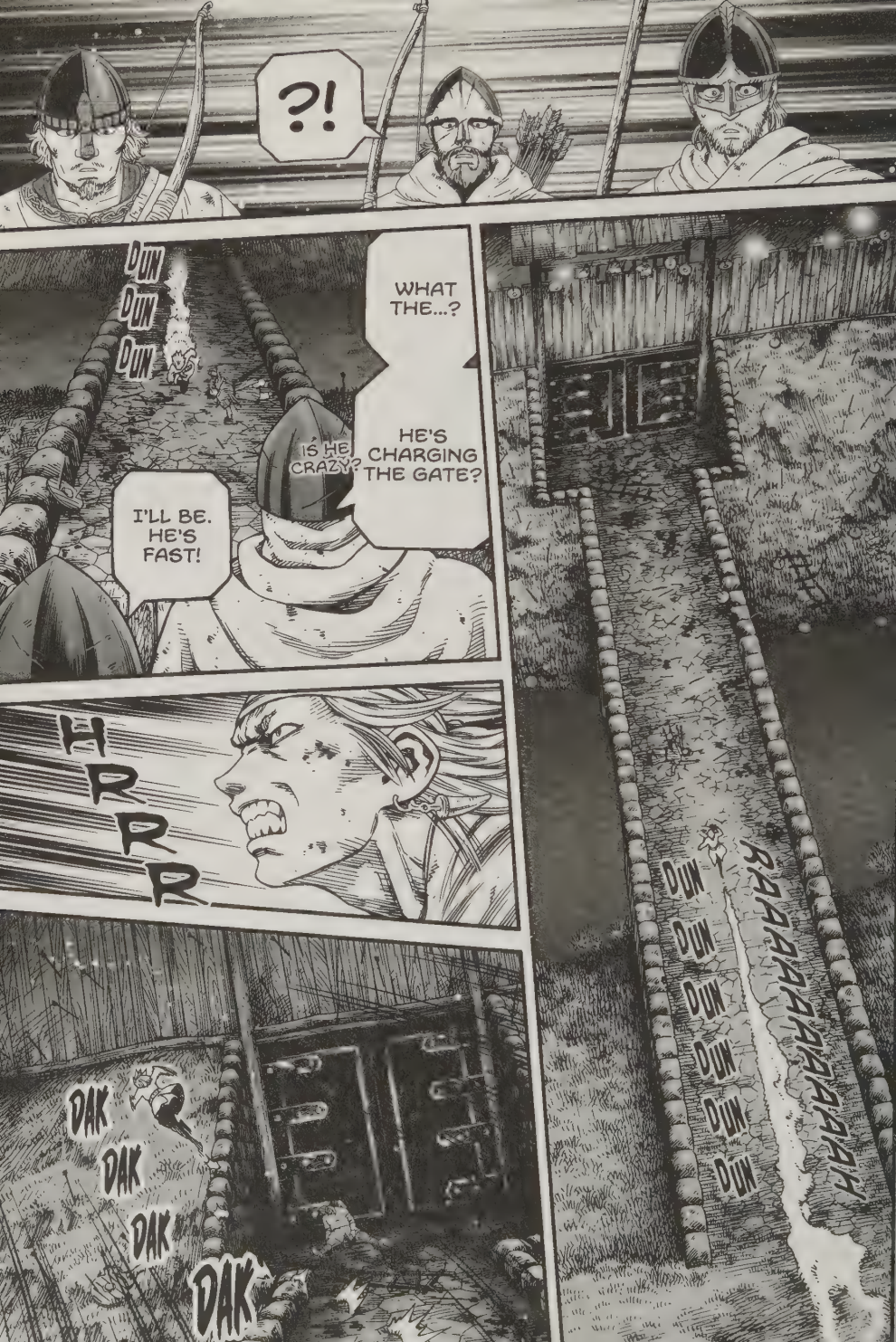
WHAT WAS HIS DEAL, ANYWAY? WHOSE SIDE IS HE ON?
GET LOST! LOSER!
...THREE, FOUR...
TWO, TWO...
WHAT'S HE WRIGGLING ABOUT FOR...?
?
THREE, FOUR...
AND-A-ONE, TWO...
GET SET...
ON YOUR MARKS...


SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
FWIP
FWIP
UM, LISTEN, THAT SPEAR WAS SPECIAL-ORDER. IT WAS EXPENSIVE.
SWISH
PLEASE, IF YOU JUST HAND IT OVER, I'LL BE GOOD AND LEAVE.
SWISH

YOU THINK WE CARE?! GO FIND A HOE TO SWING INSTEAD!
HE CAN DODGE ANYTHING!
IT'S CREEPY.
WH-WHY CAN'T I HIT HIM?


SWISH
OH.
SO THAT'S HOW WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS.



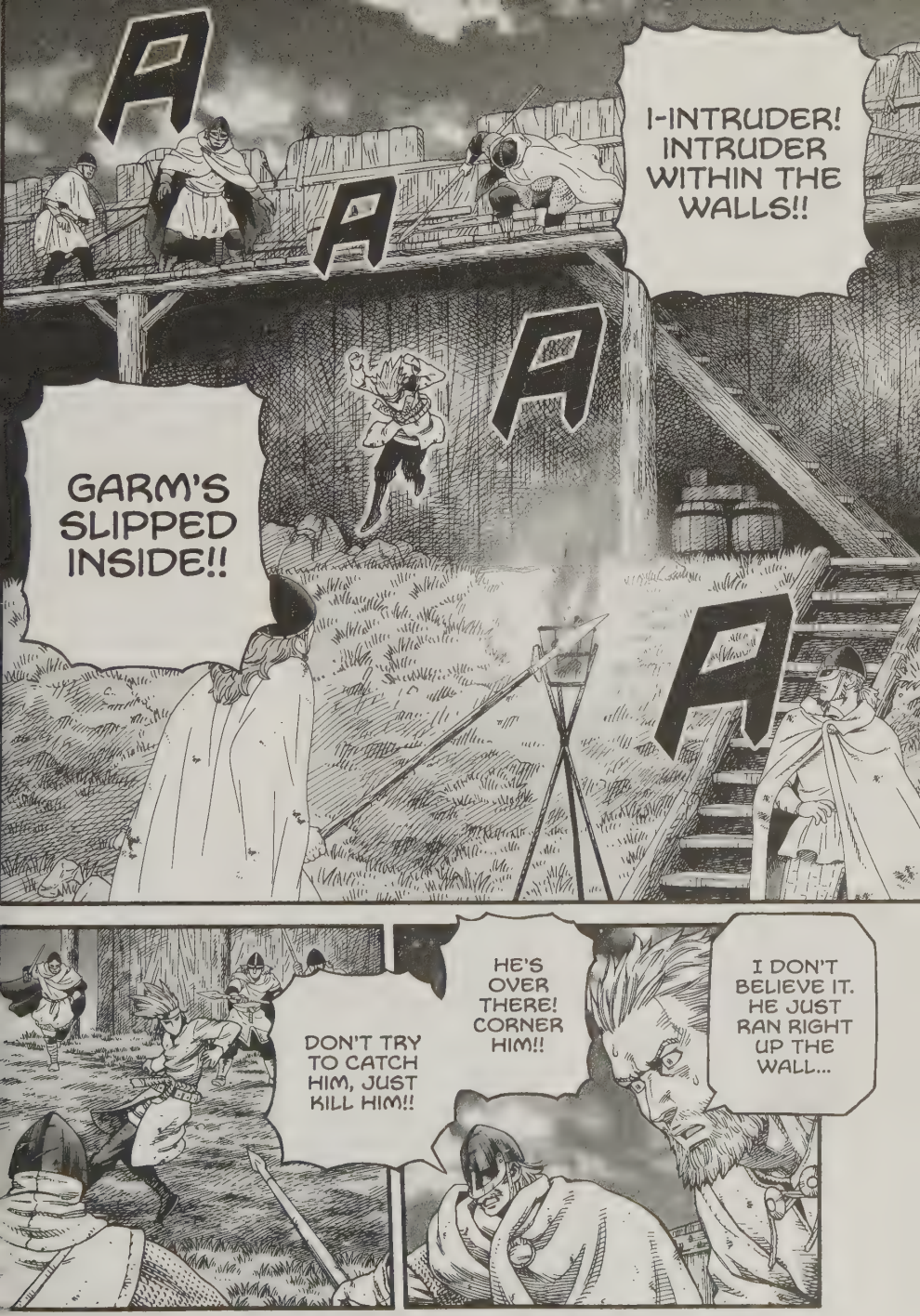

?!
DUN DUN DUN
WHAT THE...?
IS HE CRAZY?
HE'S CHARGING THE GATE?
I'LL BE. HE'S FAST!
HRRR
DAK DAK DAK DAK
RAAAAAAAAAAH
DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN

DUN
DUN
DUN
DUN
GOOOOOO!!
DUN
DUN

SHW-
URF
FWOO
HUH?
TWUMP
HEH-
HEH!
HUH
?!

YAAAAAAAAH
DAK
DAK
DAK
DAK
DAK

THWAP
YAH!!
YOOM
YERNK
GUK!!
SWISH
SHUNK
!
FWIP


A
A
A
A
I-INTRUDER! INTRUDER WITHIN THE WALLS!!
GARM'S SLIPPED INSIDE!!
DON'T TRY TO CATCH HIM, JUST KILL HIM!!
HE'S OVER THERE! CORNER HIM!!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT. HE JUST RAN RIGHT UP THE WALL...

KAAH
MUST BE A WAY IN WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT. SEEMS LIKE A BUNCH OF THEM SLIPPED INSIDE.
A SPY...?
SO THAT'S WHAT THEY'VE BEEN YELLING ABOUT.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST HURRY UP AND CATCH THESE SPIES, INSTEAD?
THEY MIGHT BE ATTEMPTING TO ASSAS-SINATE OUR LEADERS.
KEEP A CAREFUL WATCH OVER BALDR!

THERE! ON THE ROOF!
A
A
A
A
SHOOT HIM DOWN!
FWIT
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
I WAS ABLE TO GET IN HERE BY FORCE, BUT...
...WHERE'S MY SPEAR?
CRAP, SHOULD'VE THOUGHT THIS THROUGH.

GRR...

ESCAPE FOILED...

THUMP

BUT YOU *NEED* TO GET BACK TO THAT WELL, GUDRID...

THIS IS VERY UNFORTUNATE. I CAN STAY HERE...

BUT...

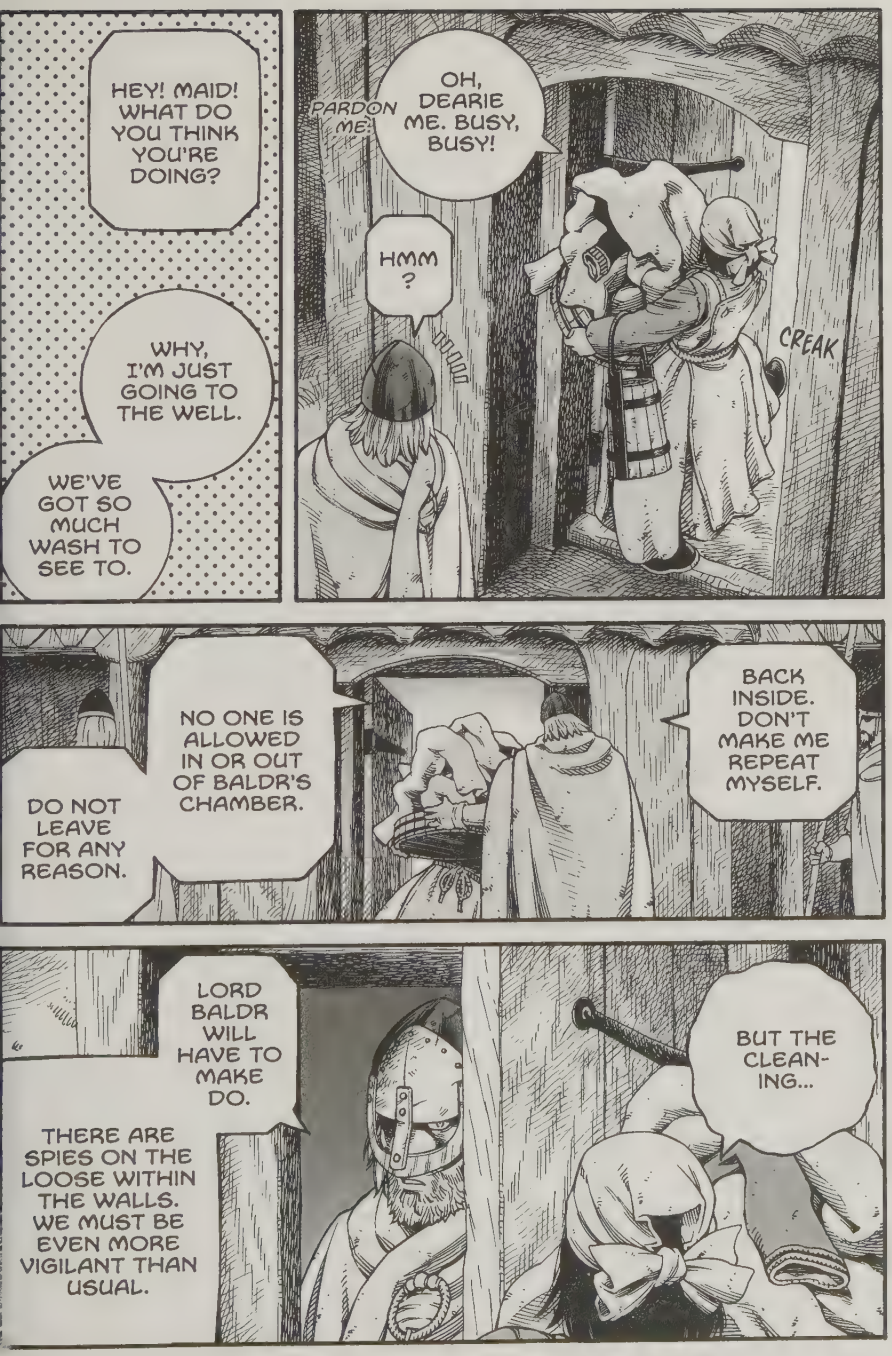
AT LEAST IT MEANS SOMEONE CARES ABOUT YOU.

HE'S OVERPROTECTIVE.

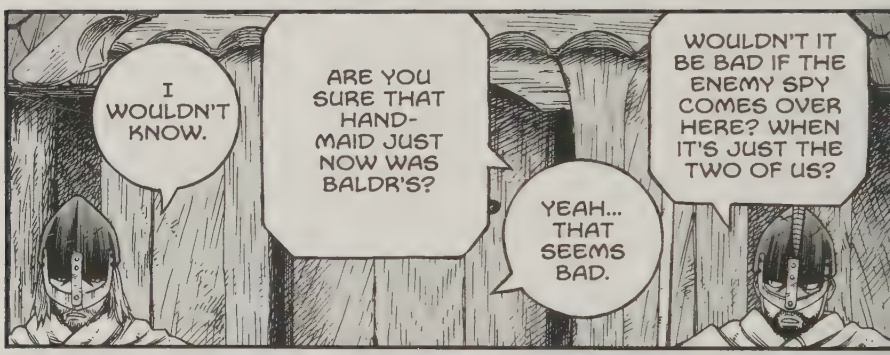
FLOKI, WAS IT?

YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK ABOUT THIS GRANDPA OF YOURS?

SORRY...


HEY! MAID! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WHY, I'M JUST GOING TO THE WELL.
WE'VE GOT SO MUCH WASH TO SEE TO.
PARDON ME!
OH, DEARIE ME. BUSY, BUSY!
HMM ?
CREAK
DO NOT LEAVE FOR ANY REASON.
NO ONE IS ALLOWED IN OR OUT OF BALDR'S CHAMBER.
BACK INSIDE. DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.
THERE ARE SPIES ON THE LOOSE WITHIN THE WALLS. WE MUST BE EVEN MORE VIGILANT THAN USUAL.
LORD BALDR WILL HAVE TO MAKE DO.
BUT THE CLEAN-ING...

?
WHAT IS IT?
HEY...
CAN I TELL YOU WHAT'S ON MY MIND?


I WOULDN'T KNOW.
ARE YOU SURE THAT HAND-MAID JUST NOW WAS BALDR'S?
YEAH... THAT SEEMS BAD.
WOULDN'T IT BE BAD IF THE ENEMY SPY COMES OVER HERE? WHEN IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US?

GOOD QUES-TION...
I'M JUST SAYING... IS IT POSSIBLE THAT WE'RE FALLING FOR SOME REALLY STUPID TRAP RIGHT NOW?
TEK
TEK

EEEEK!! SOME-ONE, HELP!!
AREN'T YOU LORD BALDR'S HAND-MAID?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I-I SAW AN UNFAMILIAR MAN BEING VIOLENT OVER THAT WAY!
WHAT ?!
IT'S THE SPY! WHAT NOW?
WHICH WAY? SHOW US!
YOU TWO STAY!
DON'T LET ANYONE NEAR LORD BALDR!
YES, SIR!

VINLAND SAGA

GUDRID!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
WHAM
!!
THOR-FINN!!

CHAPTER 148: WAR IN THE BALTIC (24)

THROW WATER ON THE NEARBY HOUSES! KEEP THE DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM!

FWOOOOM

CRAK

PCHAK

PCHAK

AAAH! IT SPREAD TO THE ROOF!

RAA AAH

RAAAA

DID SOME-ONE ATTACK THEM?

?

IS THERE A FIRE IN THERE?

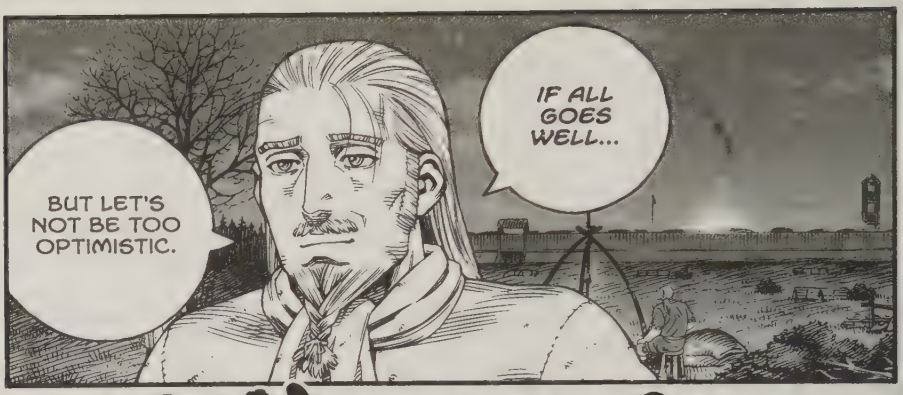
KRAKL

KRAKL

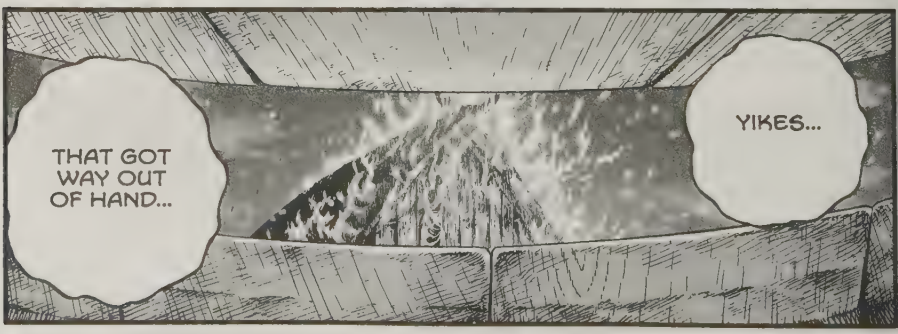
FWOOMMM

POP

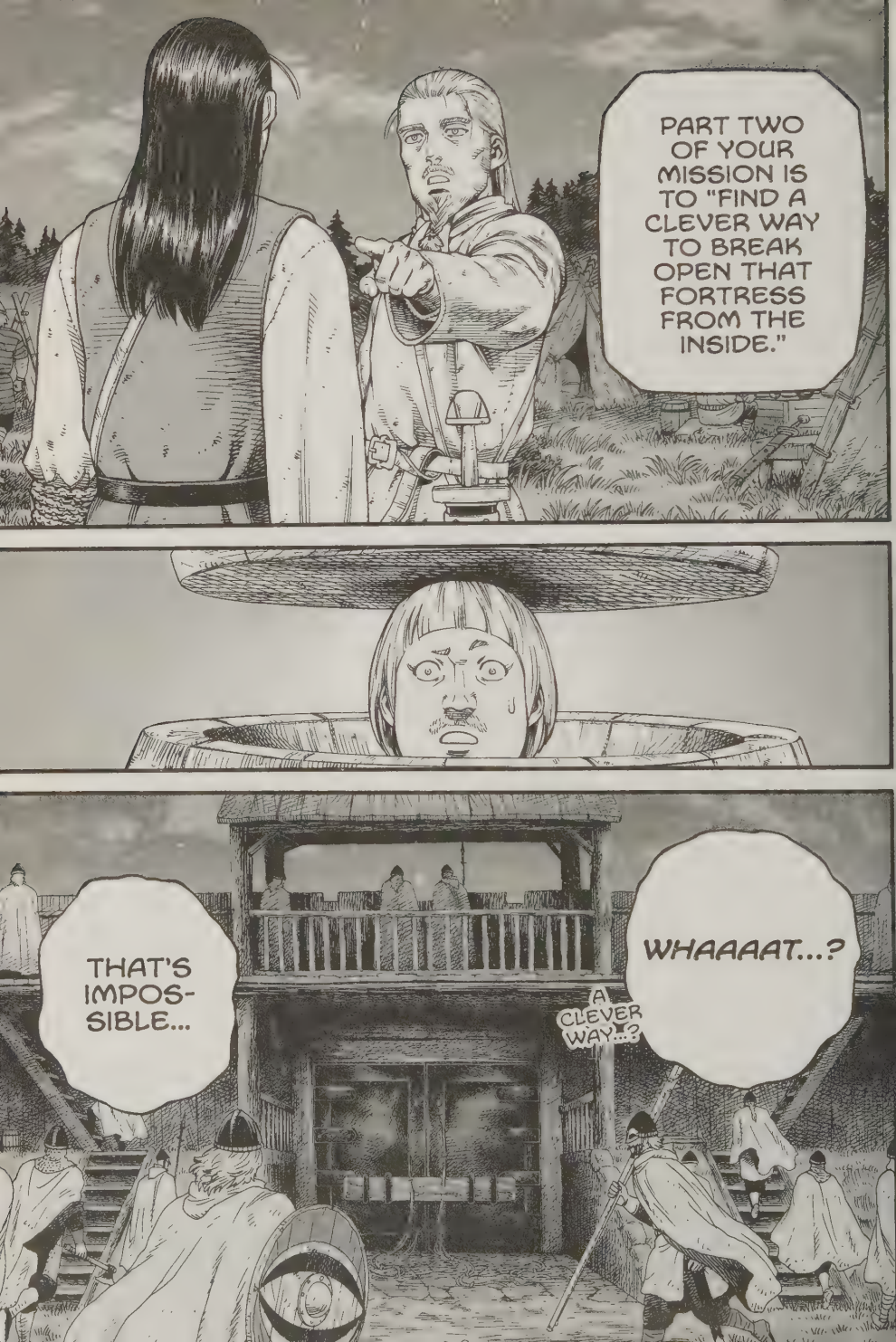
FIII-IRE!!


BUT LET'S NOT BE TOO OPTIMISTIC.
IF ALL GOES WELL...

FWOO OOM
CRIK CRAK
WE NEED MORE WATER!
THERE'S NO SAVING IT!
YEOW!


THAT GOT WAY OUT OF HAND...
YIKES...

I GUESS THERE REALLY WAS A WAY INSIDE.
OH...?
NOT BAD, SPUNKY.
HIT HIM UNTIL HE WAKES UP.
HUH? I HEAR HIM SNORING.
IS THE BOSS AWAKE?
IF ALL GOES WELL, WE MAY HAVE A FIGHT BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OVER!
EVERY MAN PREPARE FOR BATTLE!


PART TWO OF YOUR MISSION IS TO "FIND A CLEVER WAY TO BREAK OPEN THAT FORTRESS FROM THE INSIDE."
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE...
WHAAAAT...?
A CLEVER WAY...?

IF IT'S THAT BAD, WHY DID YOU SET THE FIRE?

OH, WHAT A HORRID DAY...

SIGURD, SON OF HALFDAN, STOOPING TO THE LOW CRIME OF ARSON...

RAAAAH

BEFORE I SNUCK IN HERE, ASGEIR TOLD ME WHAT TO DO.

I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE. THAT'S THE SIGNAL I NEEDED TO SET FOR *SPECIAL MISSION, PART TWO.*

I KNEW THAT!

YEP.

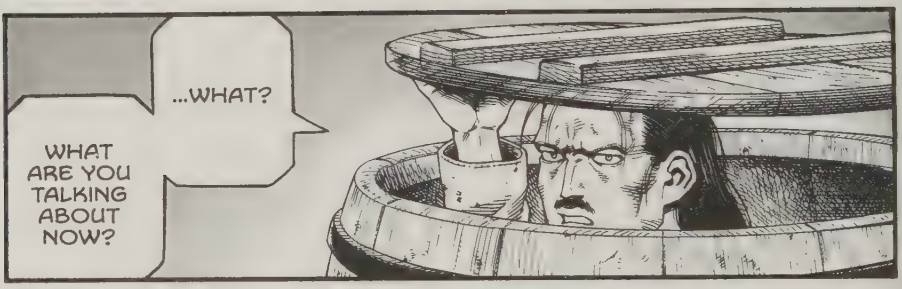
WELL, PART ONE WAS FINDING OUT IF THERE'S A SECRET PASSAGE, ALL RIGHT?

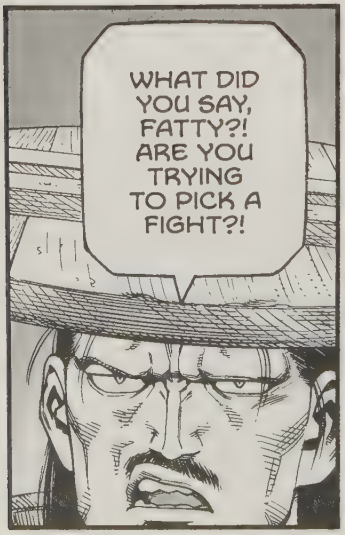
SNEAK SNEAK

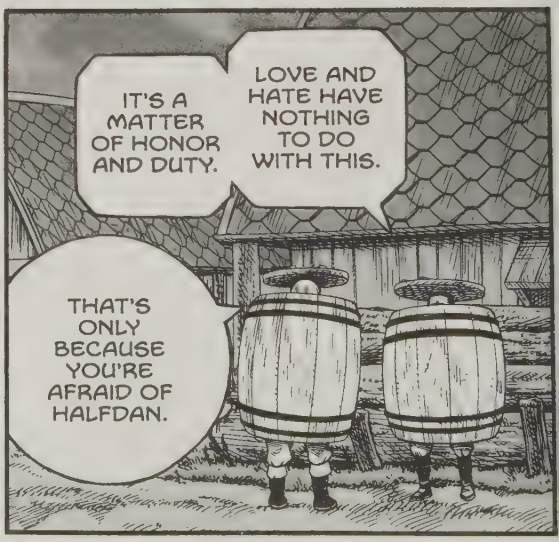
ZLRR ZLRR

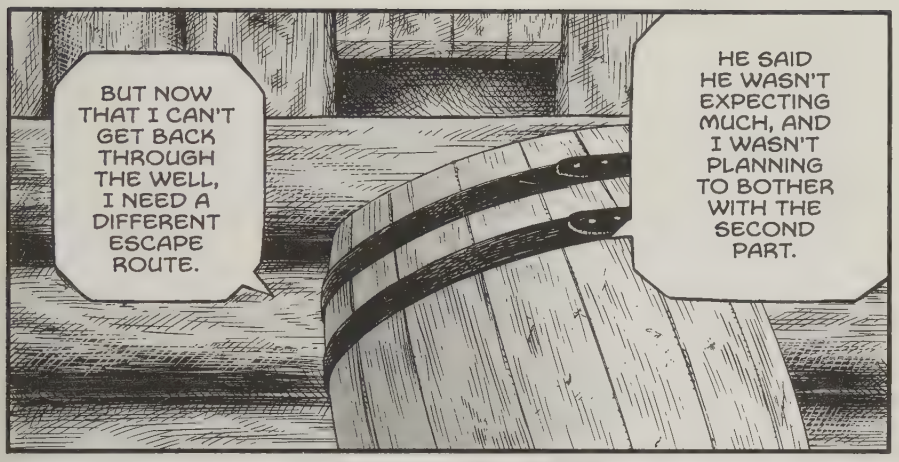
PART TWO?

RAAAH
SIGGY...
YOU DON'T LOVE GUDRID AT ALL, DO YOU?


...WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT NOW?


WHAT DID YOU SAY, FATTY?! ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT?!

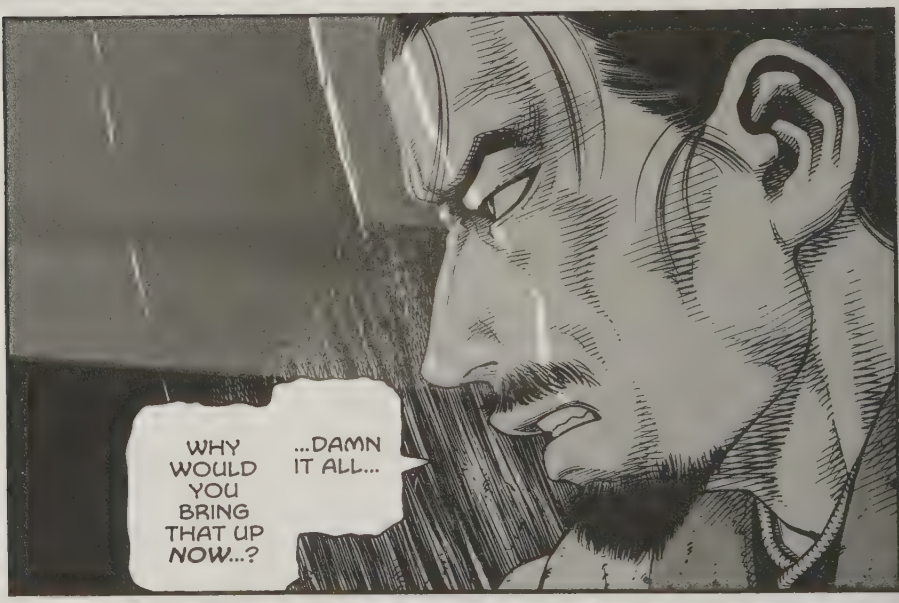

IT'S A MATTER OF HONOR AND DUTY.
LOVE AND HATE HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS.
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF HALFDAN.


BUT NOW THAT I CAN'T GET BACK THROUGH THE WELL, I NEED A DIFFERENT ESCAPE ROUTE.
HE SAID HE WASN'T EXPECTING MUCH, AND I WASN'T PLANNING TO BOTHER WITH THE SECOND PART.

GRRR...
HOW MUCH TROUBLE CAN THAT STUPID WIFE OF MINE PUT ME THROUGH?!
...AND YOU HAVEN'T EVEN FOUND GUDRID YET...

I WILL BRING HER HOME WITH A CHAIN AROUND HER NECK, IF NEED BE!
IN FACT, I'LL TIE HER TO A POST TO ENSURE SHE CAN NEVER ENGAGE IN THIS NONSENSE AGAIN!

WE'LL GO AND SEARCH EACH BUILDING HERE. DON'T BLOW OUR COVER!
ENOUGH OF THIS STUPID CHIT-CHAT!


WHY WOULD YOU BRING THAT UP NOW...?
...DAMN IT ALL...

WHAT DO I...
...REALLY WANT...?

WHAT IS IT THAT *YOU* REALLY WANT, SIGGY?

DO WHAT YOUR HEART SAYS YOU SHOULD DO.

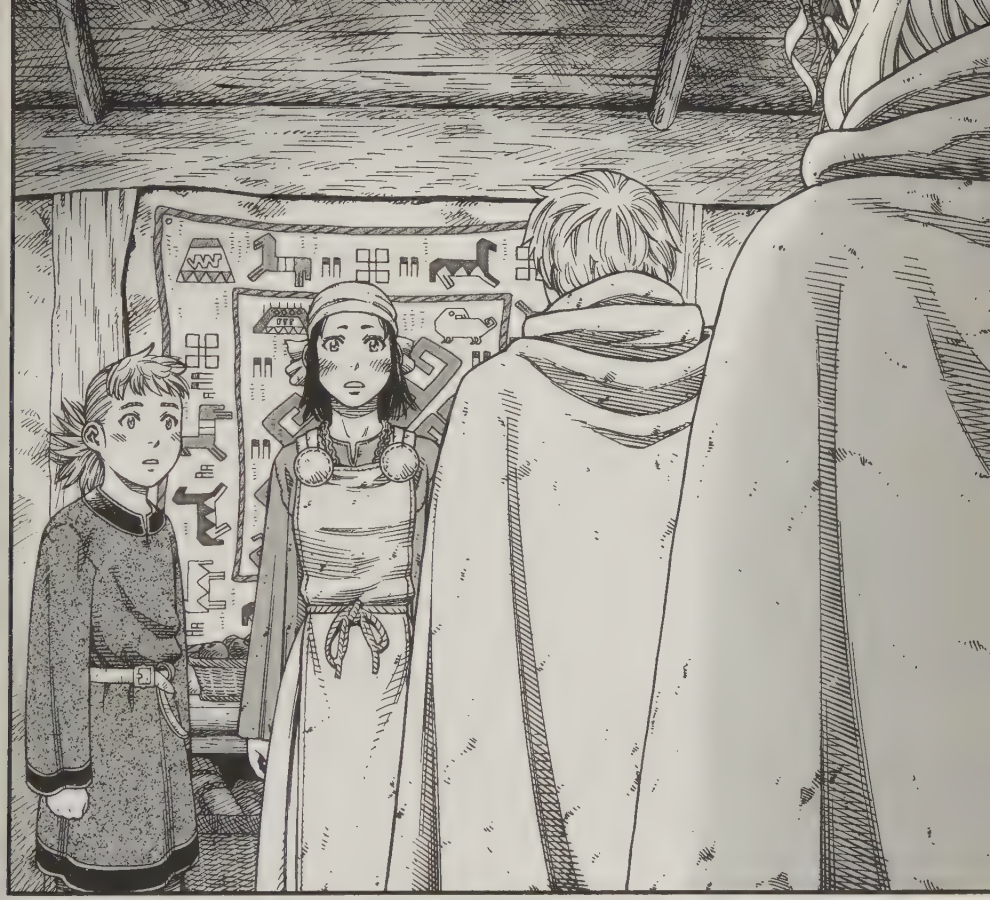
THAT WILL MAKE BOTH GUDRID *AND* YOU HAPPIER IN THE END.

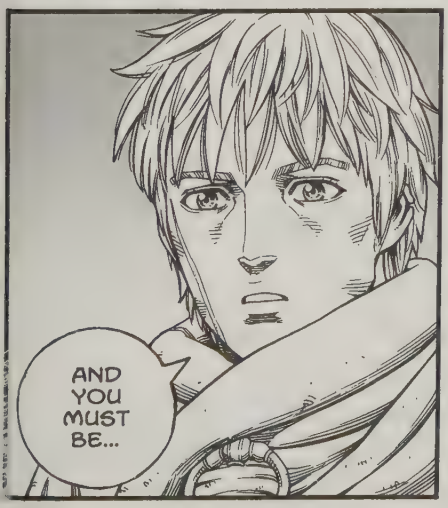
I THINK.

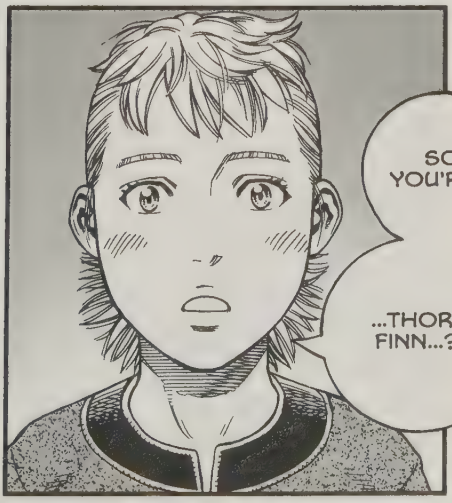
HMPH!

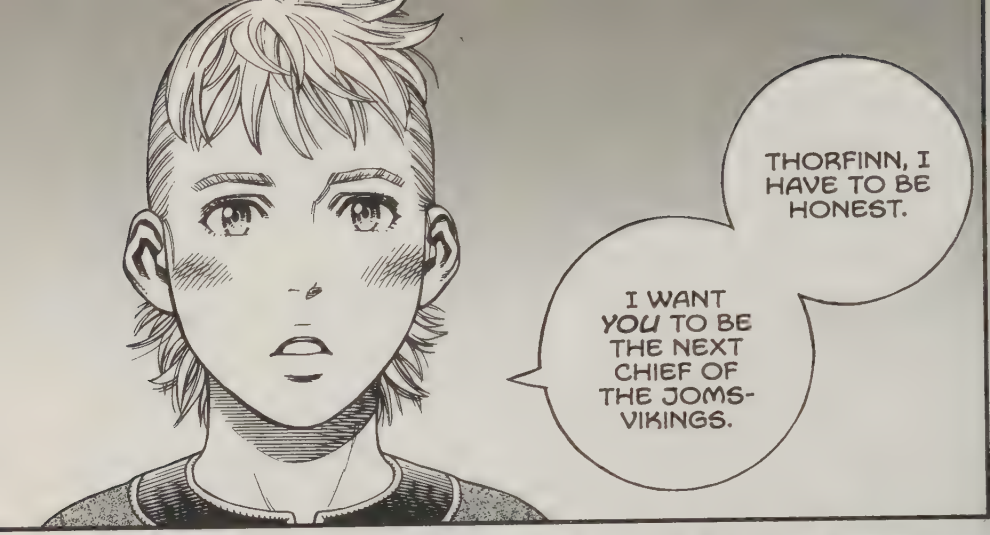
FWUD

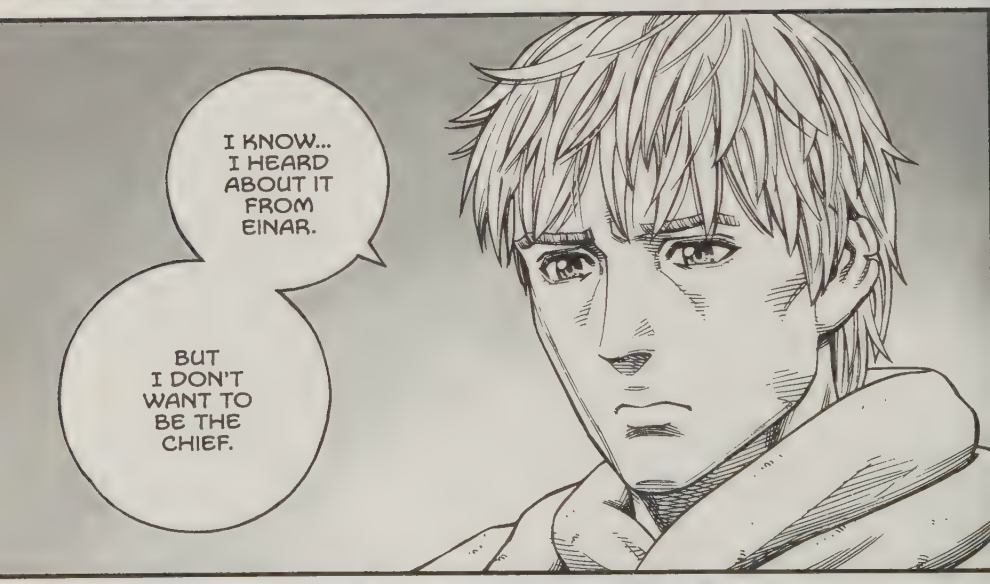
YOU CAME TO RESCUE ME?
JUST... JUST FOR ME?
THORFINN...
OF COURSE I DID.
YES, I DID.

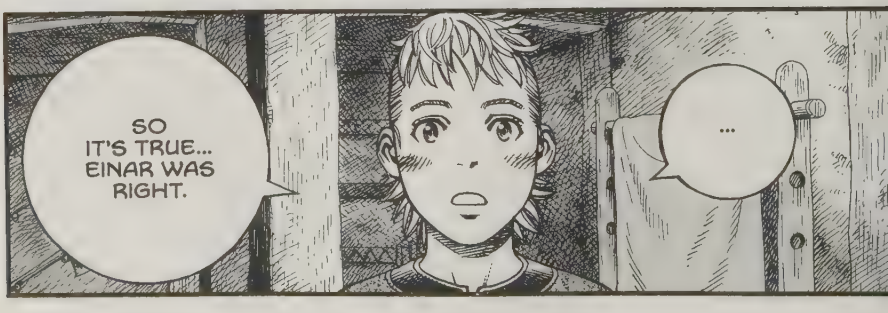



AND YOU MUST BE...

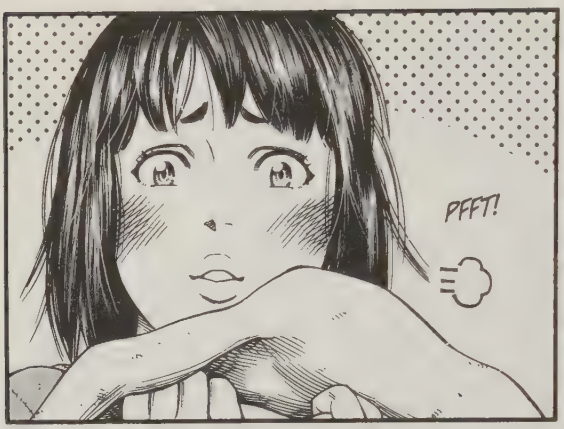

SO YOU'RE...
...THOR-FINN...?

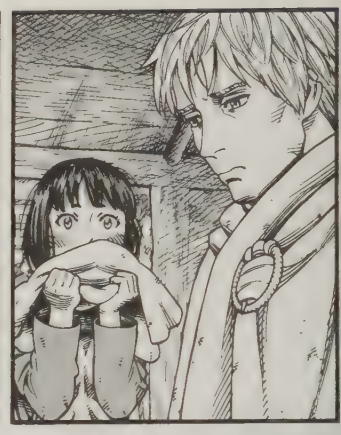

THORFINN, I HAVE TO BE HONEST.
I WANT *YOU* TO BE THE NEXT CHIEF OF THE JOMS-VIKINGS.

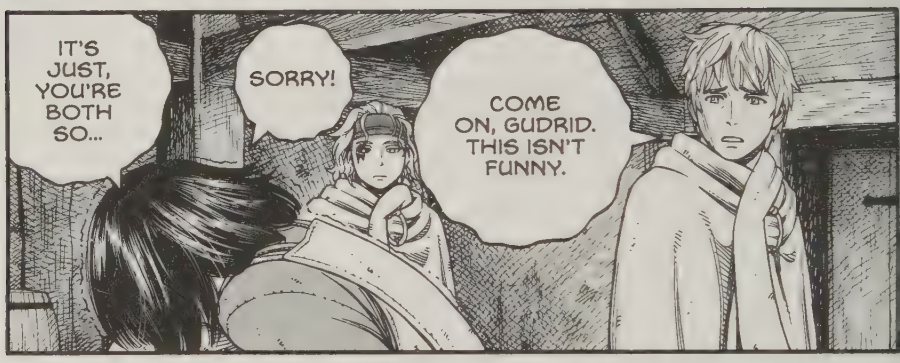

I KNOW... I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM EINAR.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE THE CHIEF.

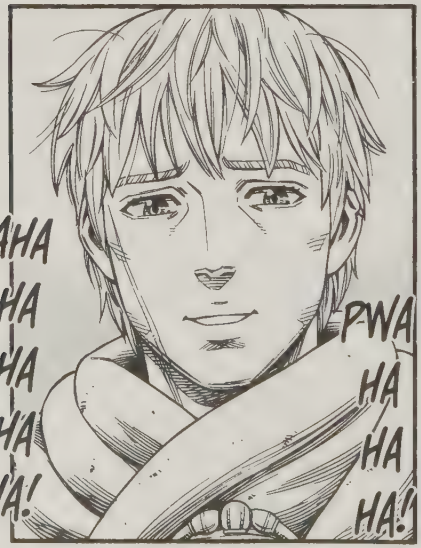

SO IT'S TRUE... EINAR WAS RIGHT.
...

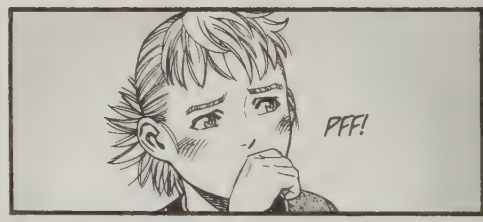
WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHY AM I...?
OH, CRAP, OH, CRAP.
RUB
OH, CRAP.
WHY AM I SO HAPPY...?
IT'S GOOD TO MEET YOU.
ANYWAY, YOU MUST BE BALDR.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING MY COMPANION HERE.

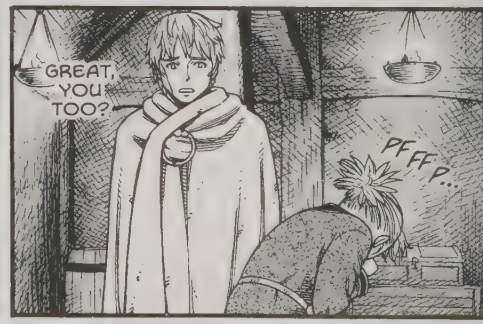

PFFT!

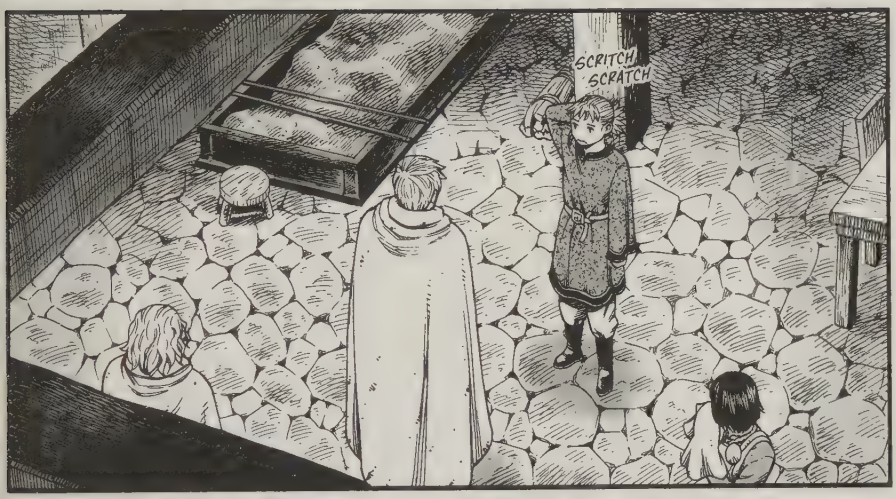


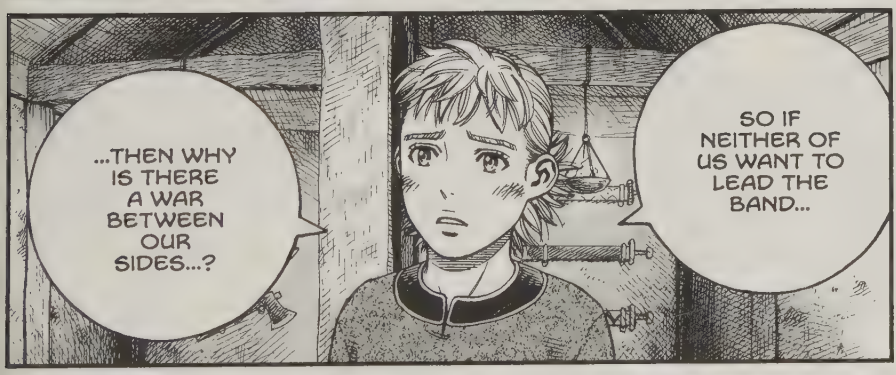

IT'S JUST, YOU'RE BOTH SO...
SORRY!
COME ON, GUDRID. THIS ISN'T FUNNY.


AHA HA HA HA HA!
PWA HA HA HA!

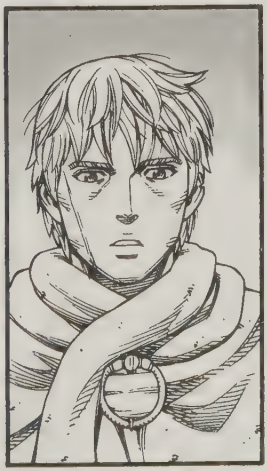

PFF!

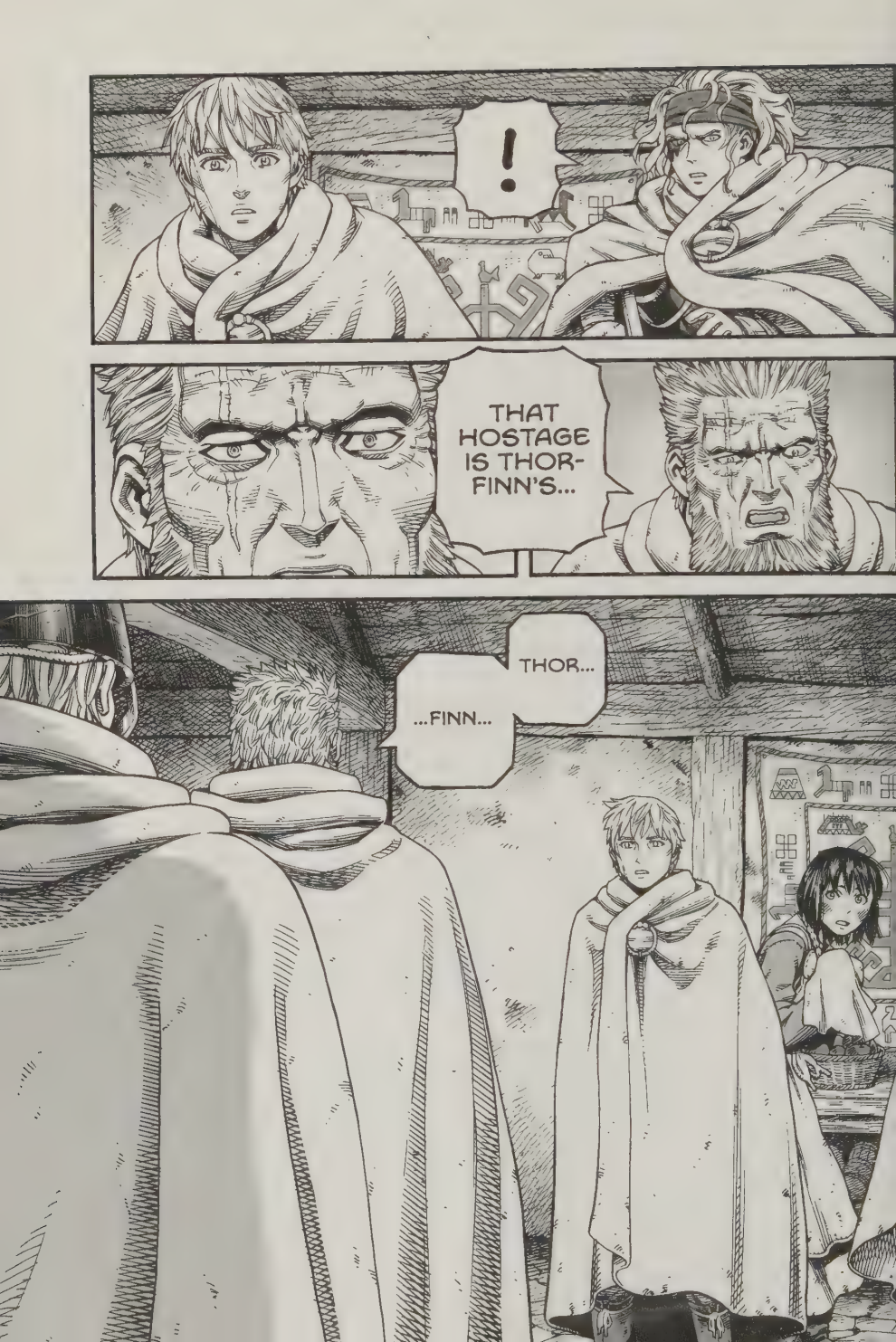

GREAT, YOU TOO?
PFFFP...


SCRITCH SCRATCH

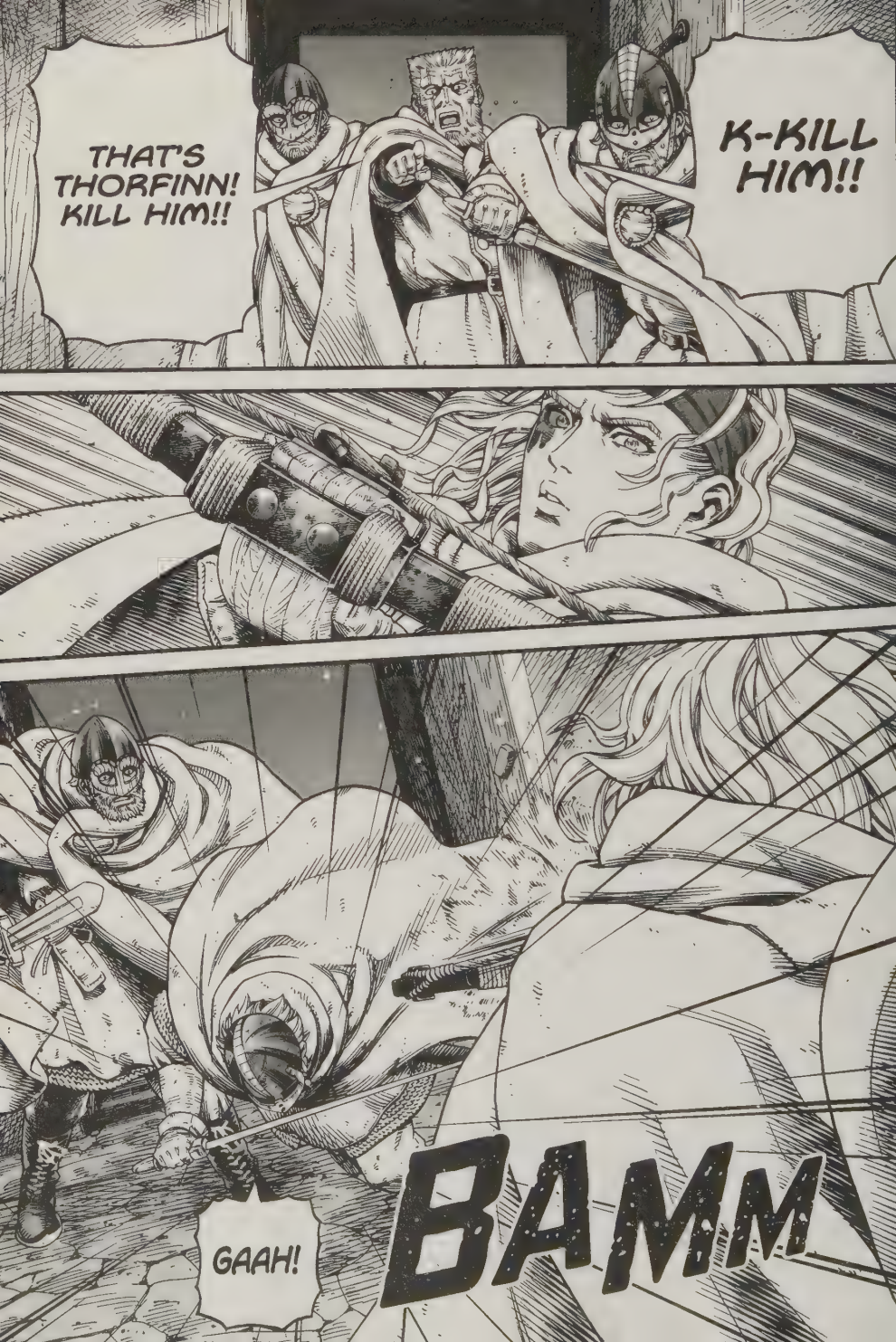

...THEN WHY IS THERE A WAR BETWEEN OUR SIDES...?
SO IF NEITHER OF US WANT TO LEAD THE BAND...

SIGH....
...IT'S A GOOD QUESTION.
NONE OF IT MAKES ANY SENSE.




!
THAT HOSTAGE IS THOR-FINN'S...
THOR...
...FINN...

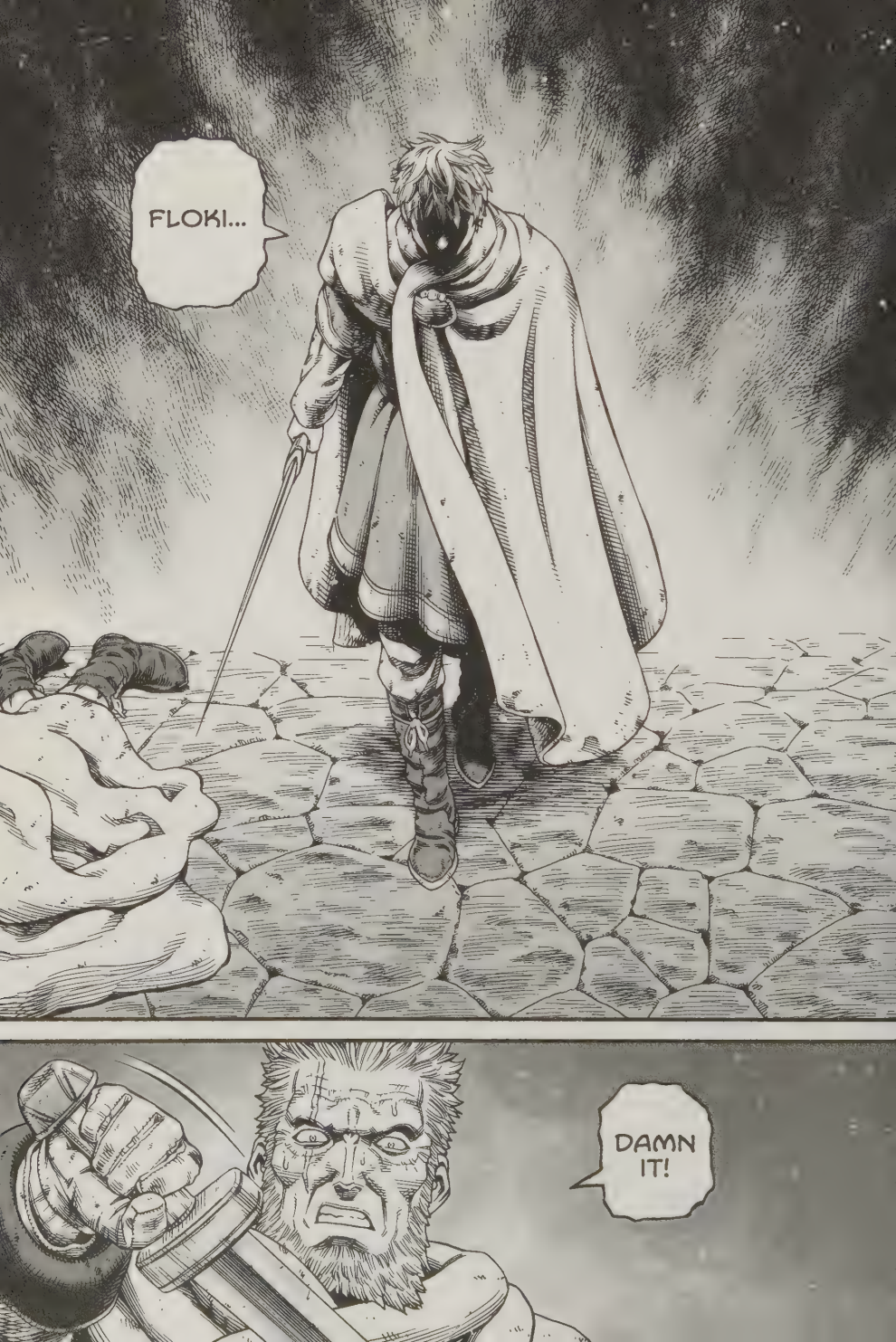
VERY SOFT, INDEED!!
GONK
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?! WHY'S HE ON THE GROUND?!
!
WHAM
BALDR!! YOU WENT AND FREED THE PRISONER, DIDN'T YOU?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

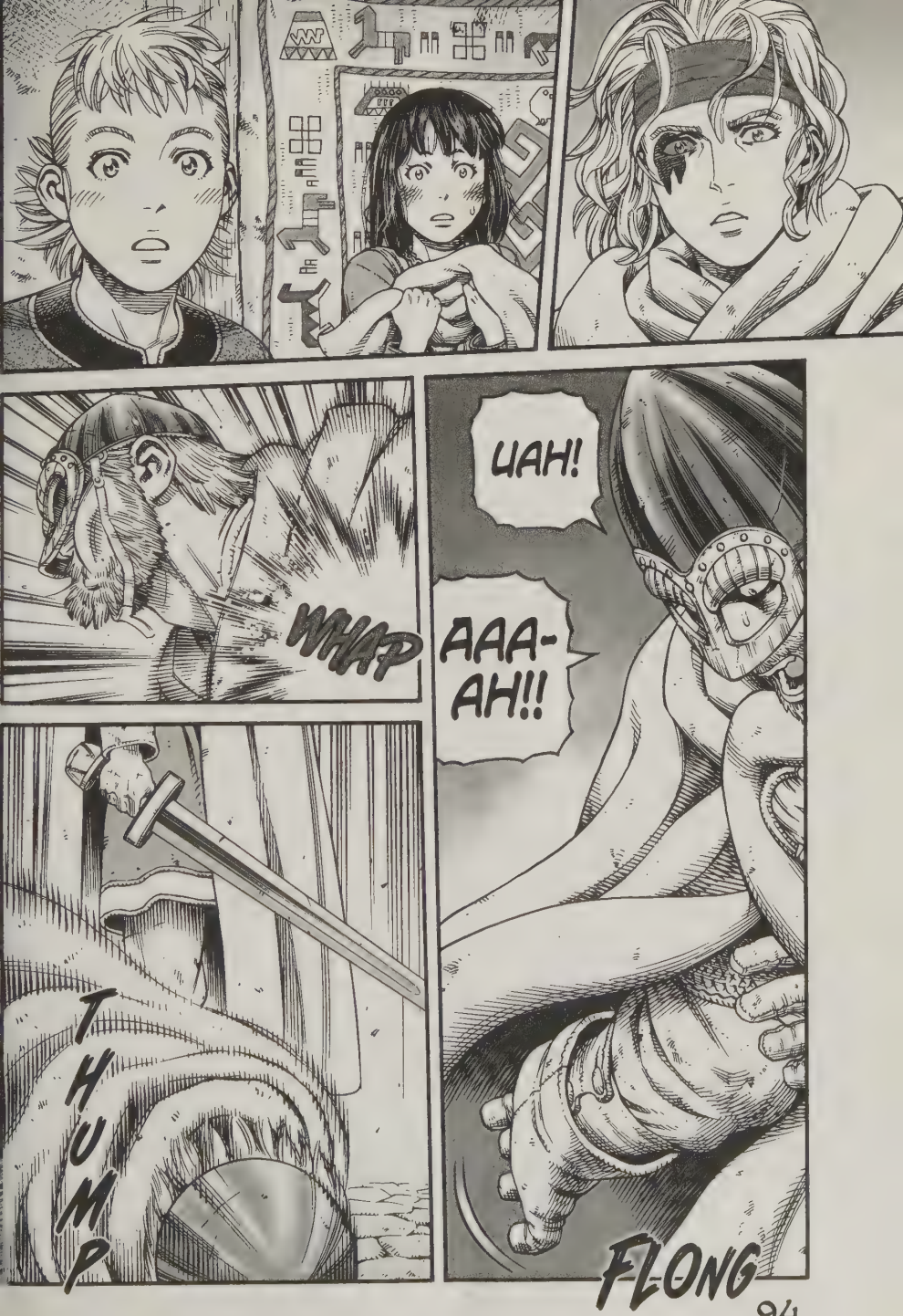

THAT'S THORFINN! KILL HIM!!
K-KILL HIM!!
GAAH!
BAMM

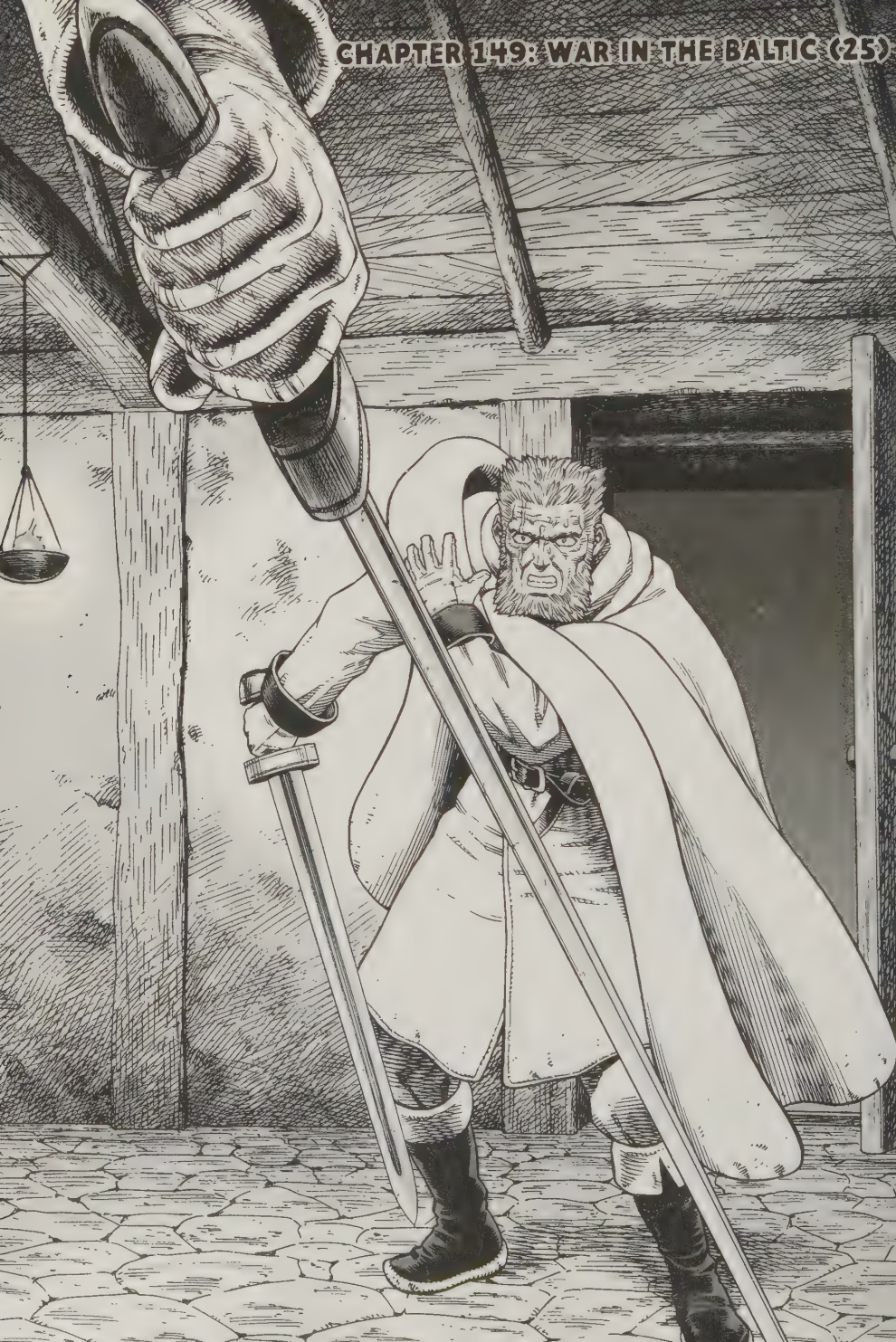
FLOKI...
FLOKI MUST BE VAN-QUISHED!!
AVENGE THORS' DEATH, THOR-FINN!
THIS IS THE MAN WHO HAD MY FATHER KILLED.
SO THIS...

GRUNCH

WHOOSH
AAAH!
RGH!
CH-CHAK

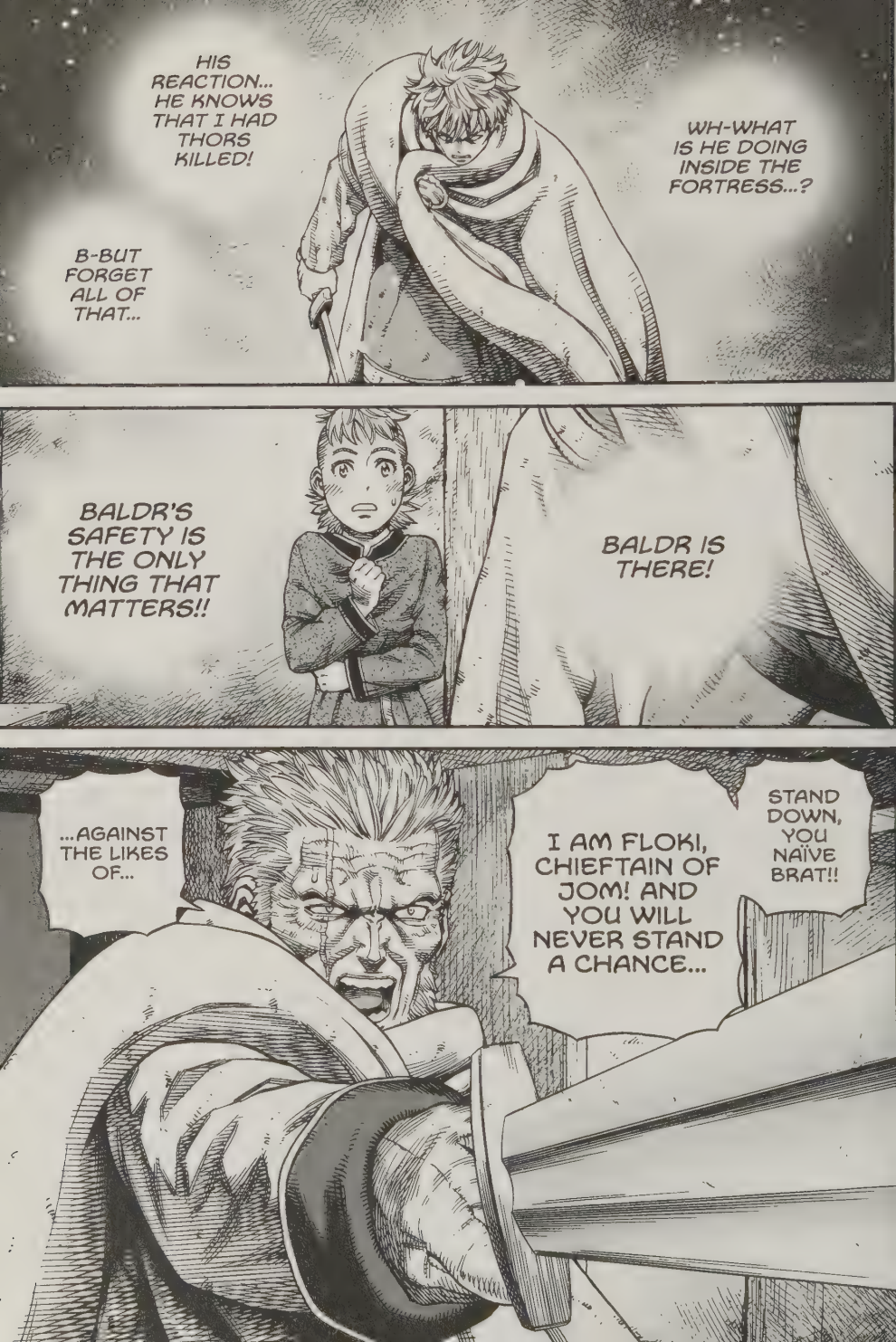

FLOKI...
DAMN IT!


UAH!
AAA-AH!!
WHAP
THUMP
FLONG



CHAPTER 149: WAR IN THE BALTIC (25)

FLOKI!!
...?!

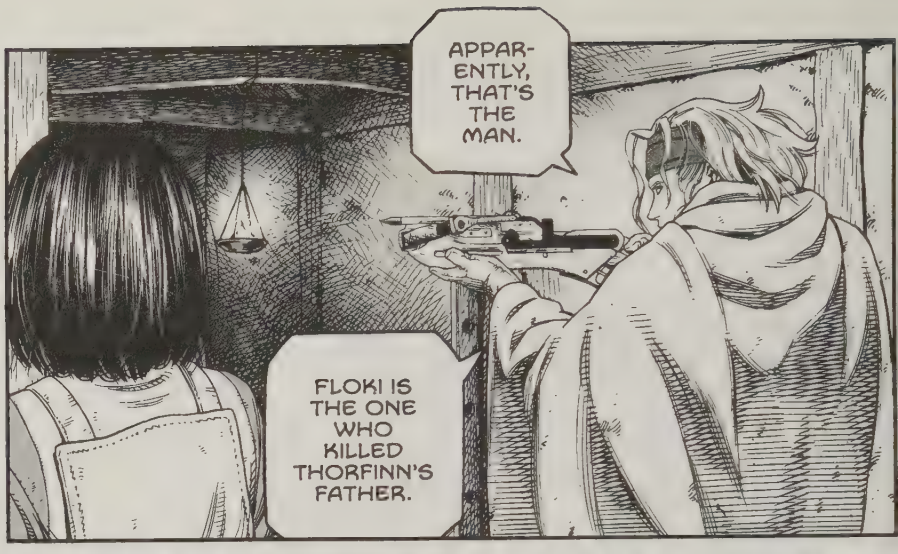

HIS REACTION... HE KNOWS THAT I HAD THORS KILLED!
WH-WHAT IS HE DOING INSIDE THE FORTRESS...?
B-BUT FORGET ALL OF THAT...
BALDR'S SAFETY IS THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS!!
BALDR IS THERE!
...AGAINST THE LIKES OF...
I AM FLOKI, CHIEFTAIN OF JOM! AND YOU WILL NEVER STAND A CHANCE...
STAND DOWN, YOU NAÏVE BRAT!!

WHERE ARE MY SOL-DIERS?!
G-GUARDS!!

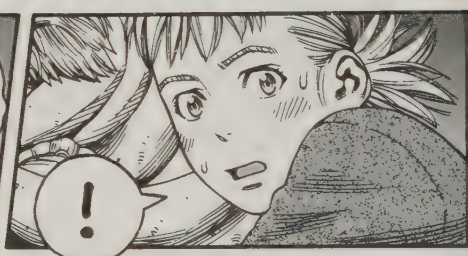
WHA...
AAH!
HFFFFF
NNNG...
AA-
AA-
AA!

ME-
GWANG

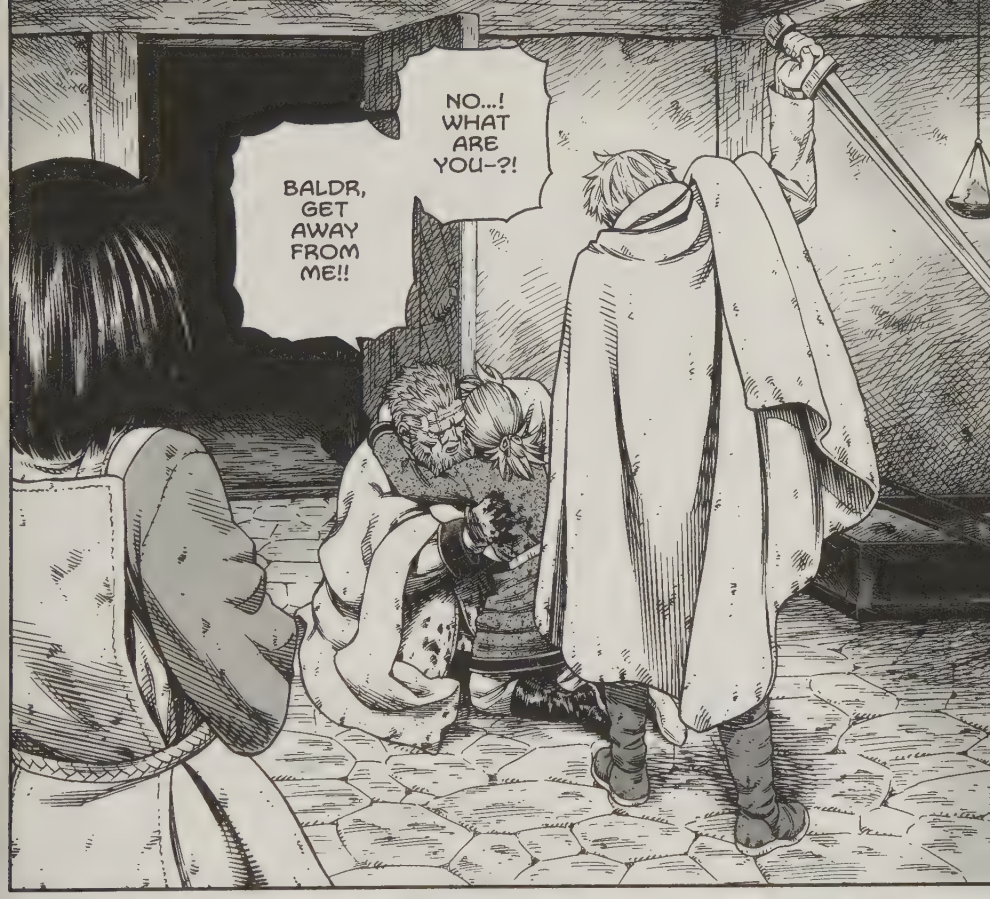
BALDR!!
T·WITCH

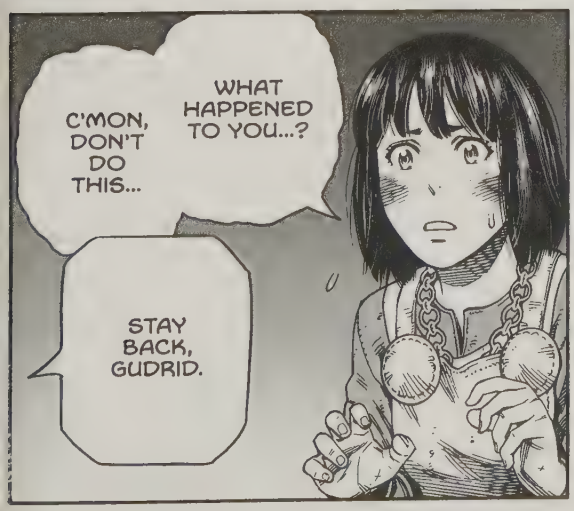

APPARENTLY, THAT'S THE MAN.
FLOKI IS THE ONE WHO KILLED THORFINN'S FATHER.

KILLED ...?


!

BE CAREFUL.
ALWAYS BE WARY OF A WOUNDED BEAST.
SWOOO

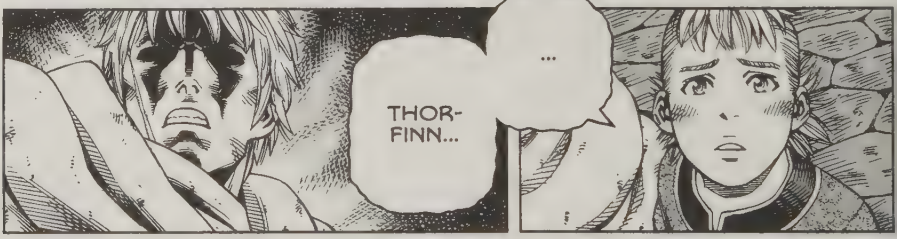

NO...! WHAT ARE YOU-?!
BALDR, GET AWAY FROM ME!!

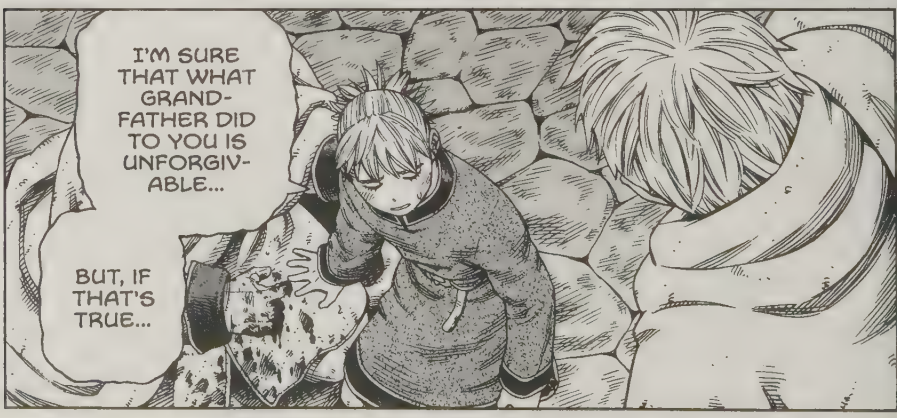

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU...?
C'MON, DON'T DO THIS...
STAY BACK, GUDRID.

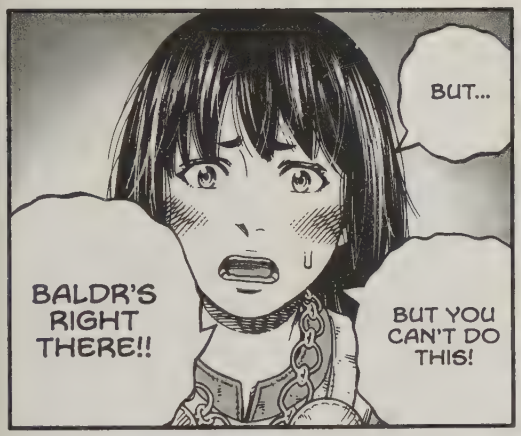
TH...
THOR-FINN...?

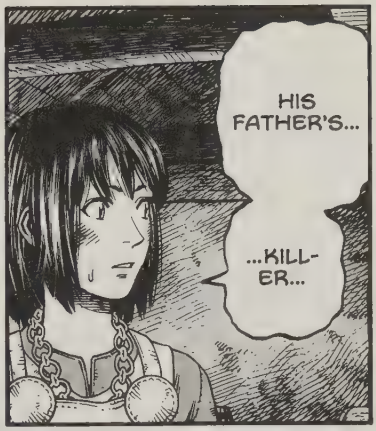
I'LL STOP HIM.

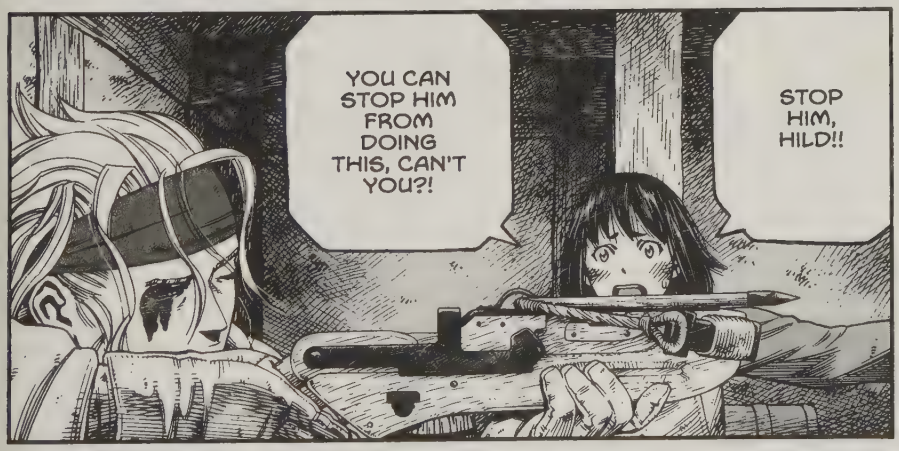
FASTER THAN HIS SWORD CAN MOVE.

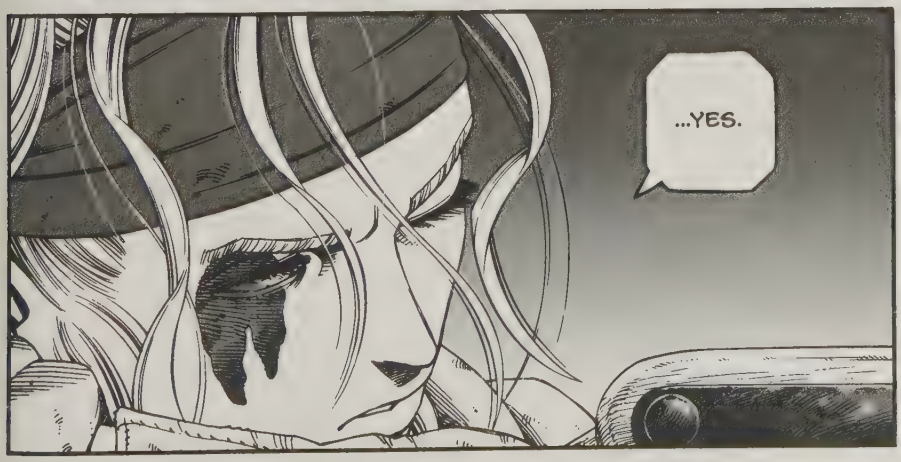





BUT...
BALDR'S RIGHT THERE!!
BUT YOU CAN'T DO THIS!


HIS FATHER'S...
...KILL-ER...

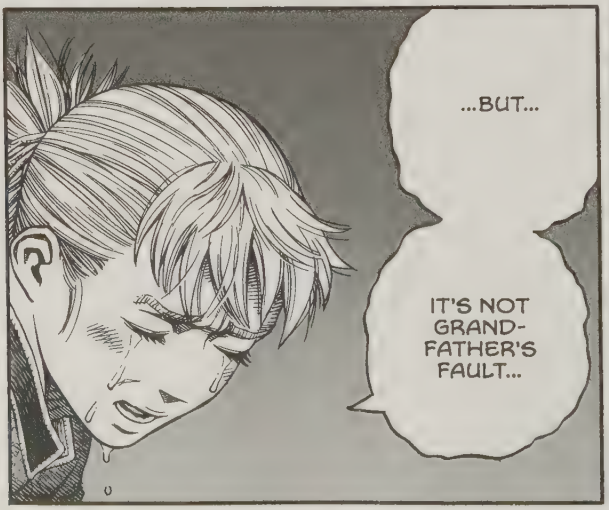

YOU CAN STOP HIM FROM DOING THIS, CAN'T YOU?!
STOP HIM, HILD!!

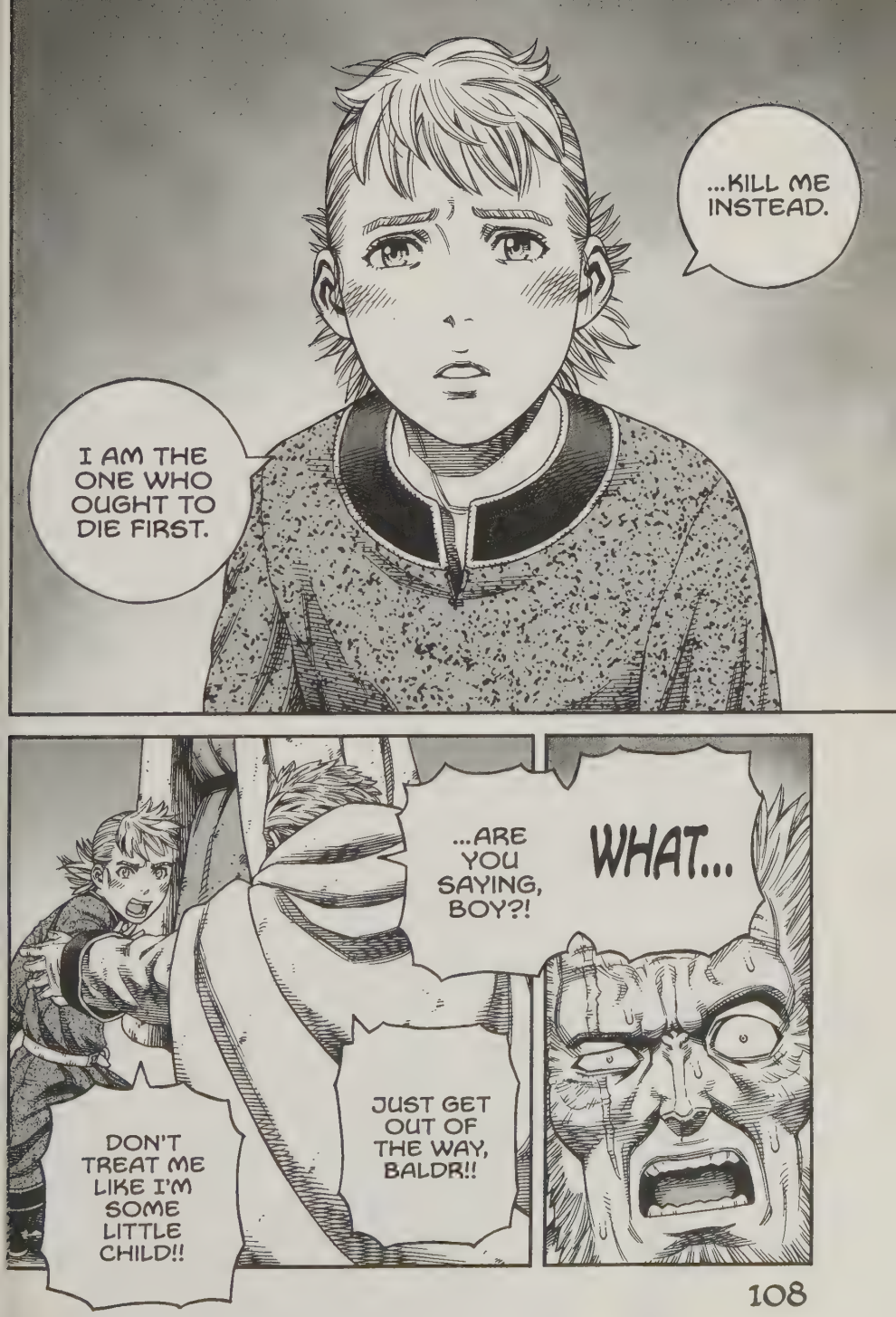

...YES.

I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE IN THE PAST!

WHEN I HEARD THAT YOU WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF THORFINN'S FATHER, I NEVER DOUBTED IT!

I THOUGHT, "THAT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING GRANDFATHER WOULD DO"!



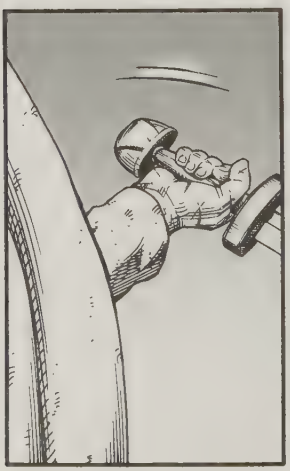

...KILL ME INSTEAD.
I AM THE ONE WHO OUGHT TO DIE FIRST.
WHAT...
...ARE YOU SAYING, BOY?!
JUST GET OUT OF THE WAY, BALDR!!
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE I'M SOME LITTLE CHILD!!

I'M SORRY...

I'M SORRY...

I'M SORRY I COULD NEVER STOP HIM...

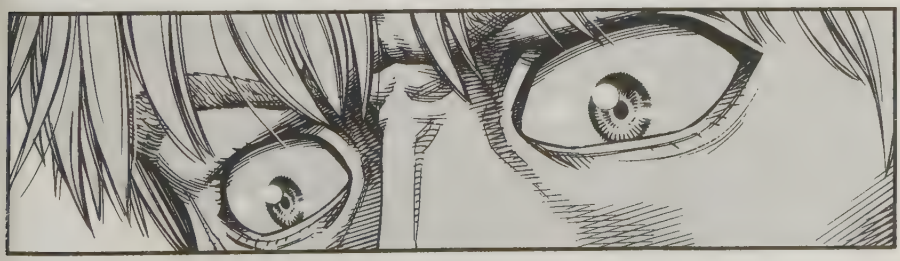
...BALDR...



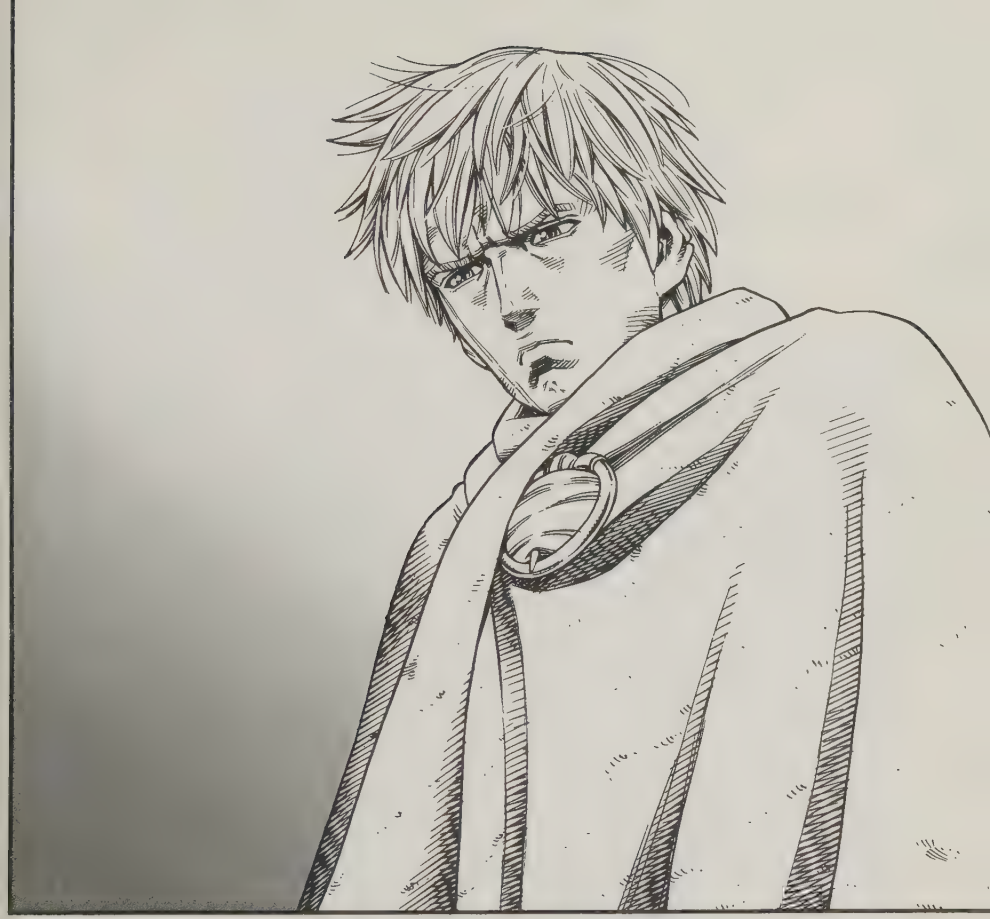
GRAND-FATHER'S BEEN KILLING PEOPLE AND GOING TO WAR FOR MY SAKE.

I'M THE ONE TO BLAME FOR EVERY-THING.

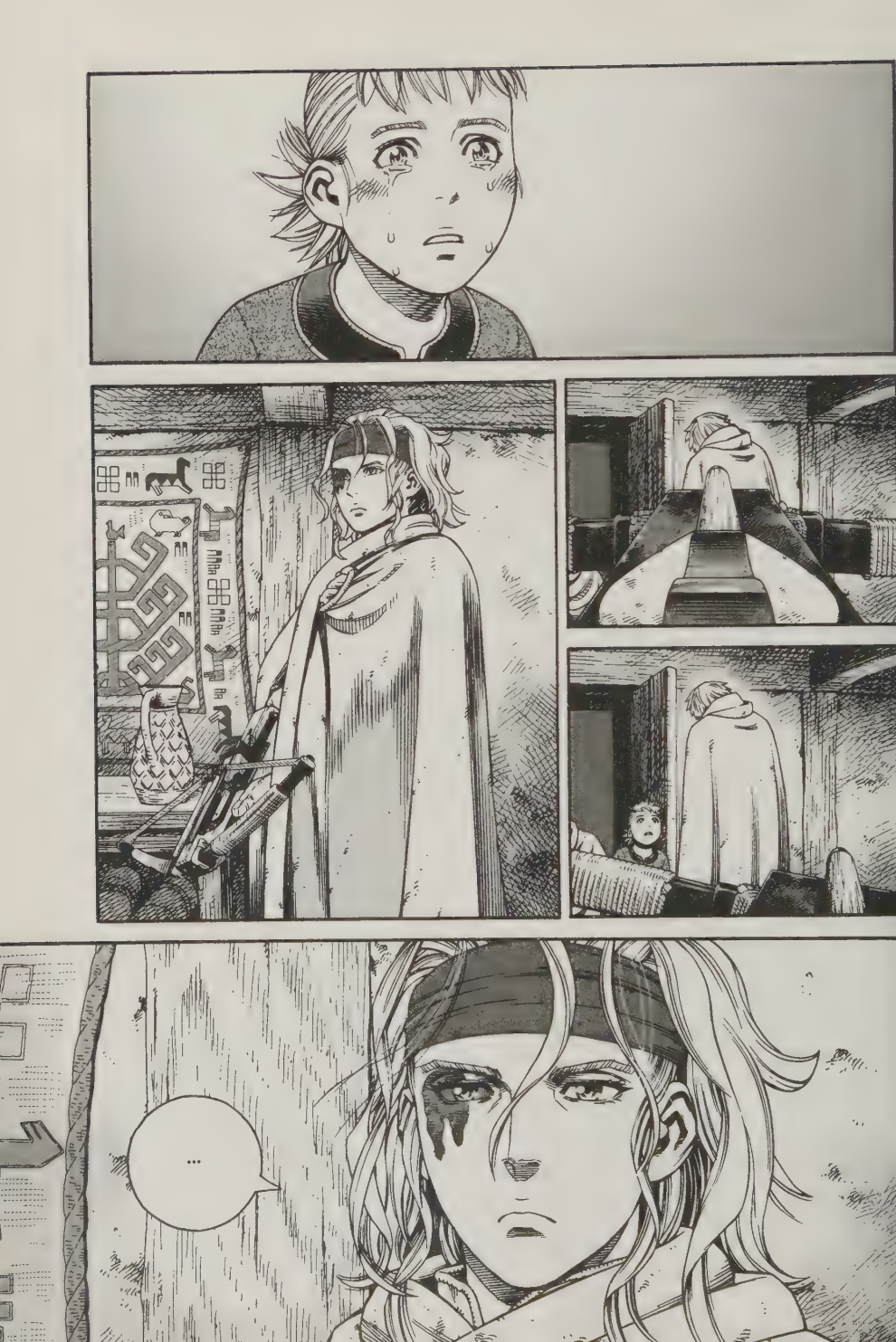
HE DID IT ALL... BECAUSE HE JUST WANTS ME TO BE HAPPY...

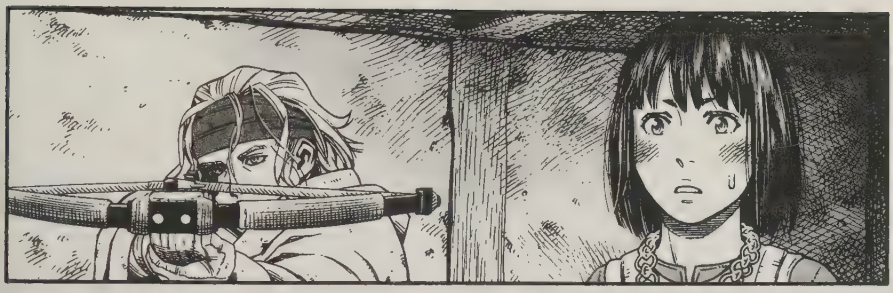


CRAK



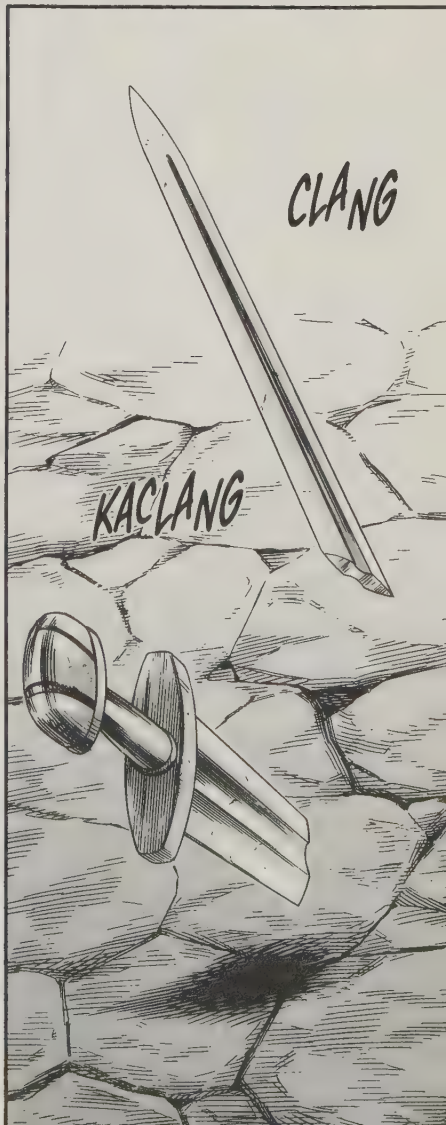
RRGH...





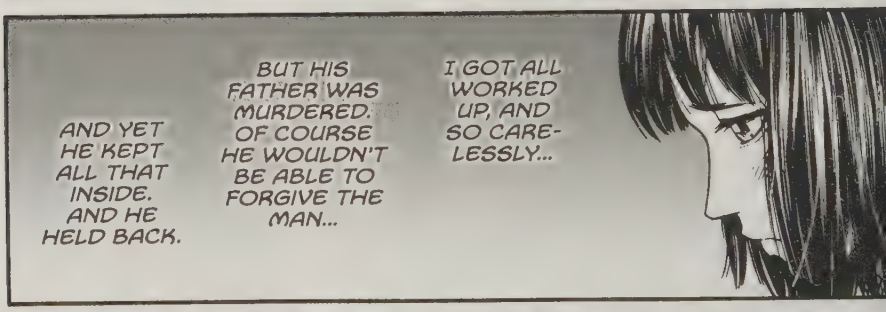
SWISH...

PHEW...

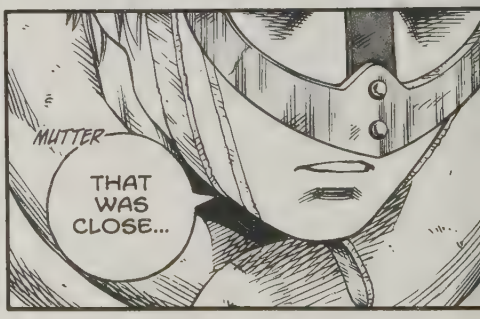

CLANG
KACLANG

POOR THOR-FINN...

HE HASN'T SAID A WORD SINCE THEN...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO HIM...

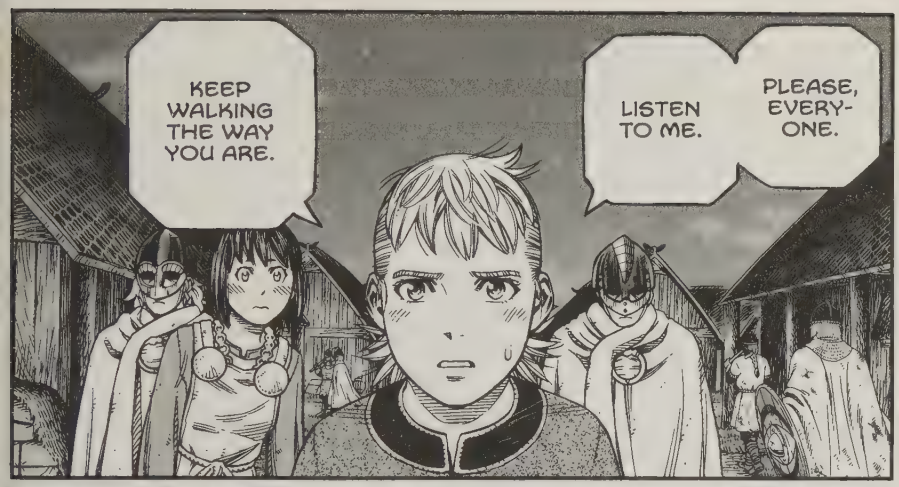

AND YET HE KEPT ALL THAT INSIDE. AND HE HELD BACK.
BUT HIS FATHER WAS MURDERED. OF COURSE HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FORGIVE THE MAN...
I GOT ALL WORKED UP, AND SO CARE-LESSLY...

HUH?

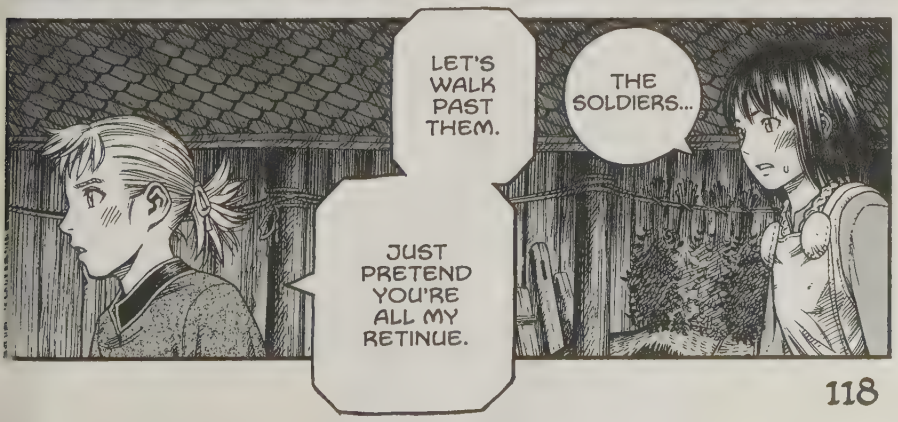

MUTTER—
THAT WAS CLOSE...

SORRY WE COULDN'T REALLY DO MUCH TO CARE FOR YOUR GRANDFATHER...
THEY'LL FIND HIM VERY SOON. WE MUST GET YOU ALL OUT OF HERE FIRST.
I KNOW... WE NEED TO HURRY NOW.

...!
...DID YOU SEE THAT, THORFINN?
YEAH...
THAT'S NOT GOOD.


KEEP WALKING THE WAY YOU ARE.
LISTEN TO ME.
PLEASE, EVERY-ONE.

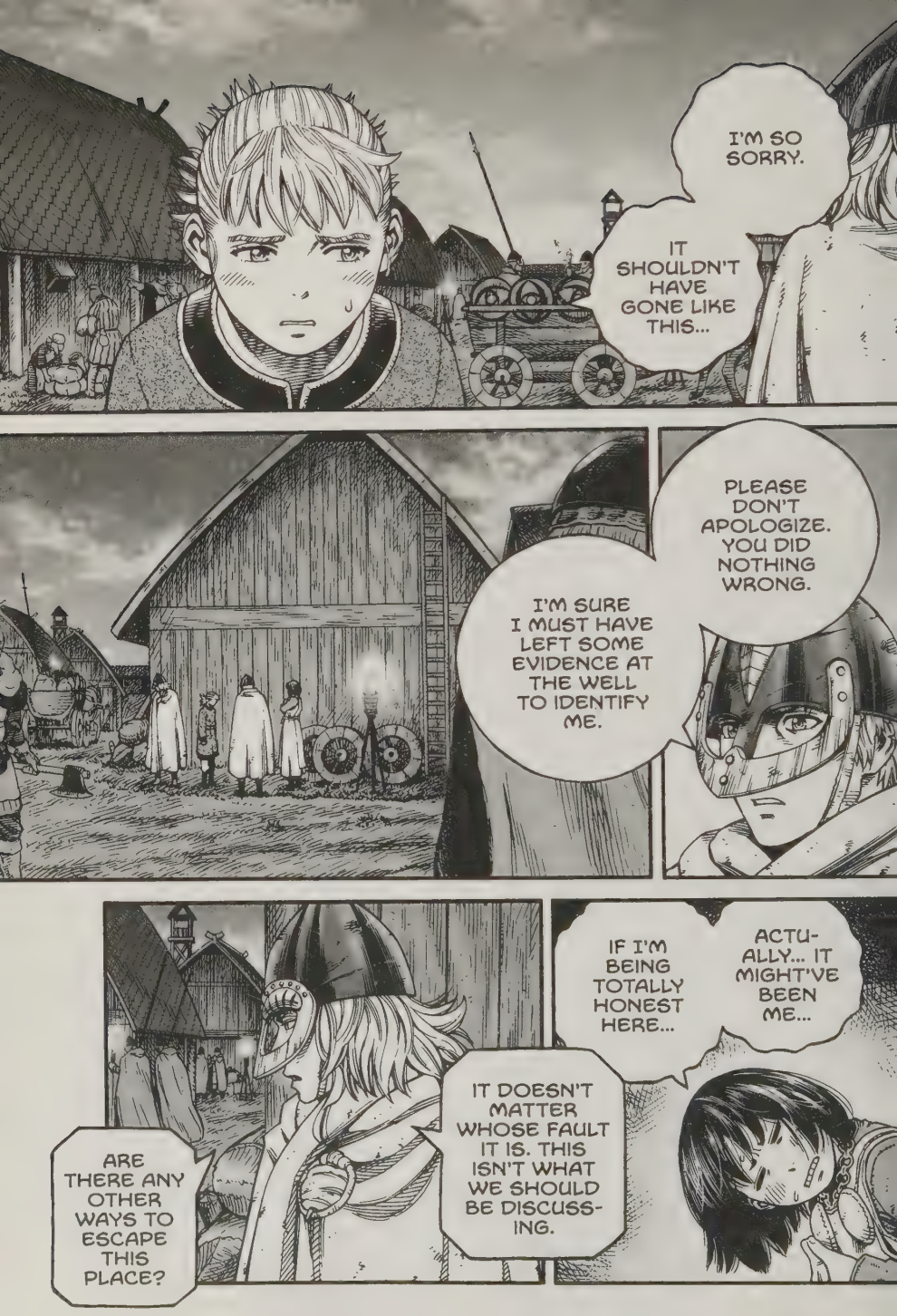
ON THE LEFT UP AHEAD IS THE SERVANTS' LIVING AREA, WHERE THE WELL IS.
BUT... SOME-THING'S WRONG...

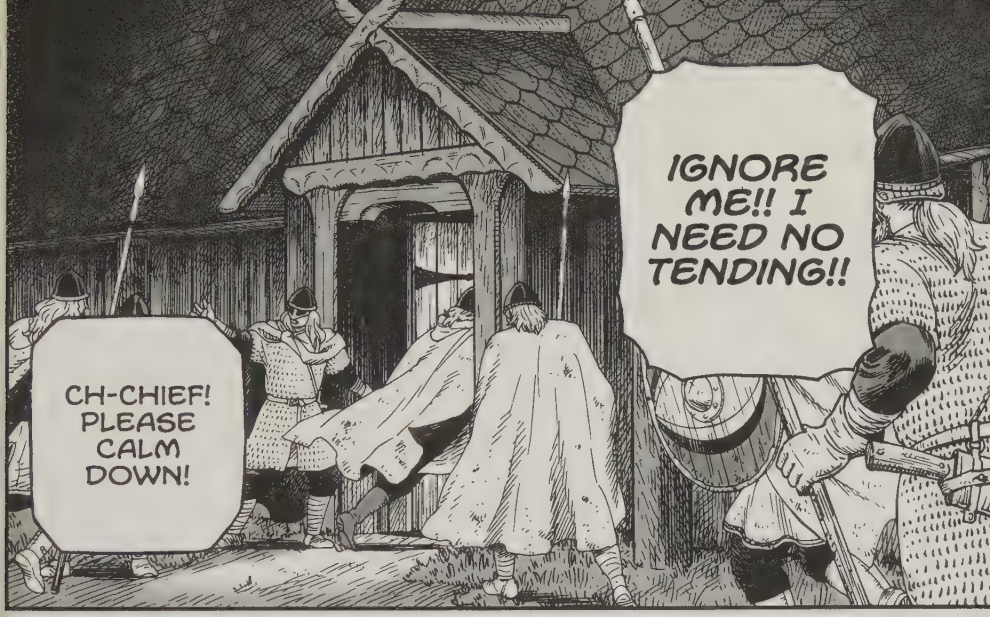

LET'S WALK PAST THEM.
THE SOLDIERS...
JUST PRETEND YOU'RE ALL MY RETINUE.

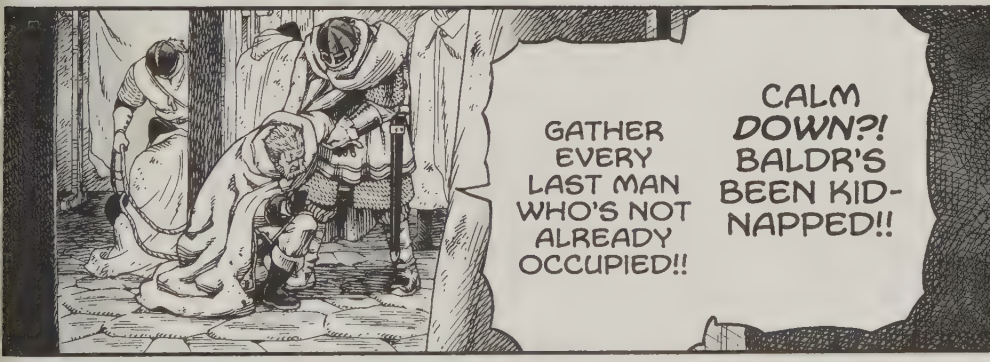
VINLAND SAGA

THE SOLDIERS...
...WERE FILLING THE WELL.
...WHAT?!
...SHIT...
I'M GETTING SICK OF THIS...

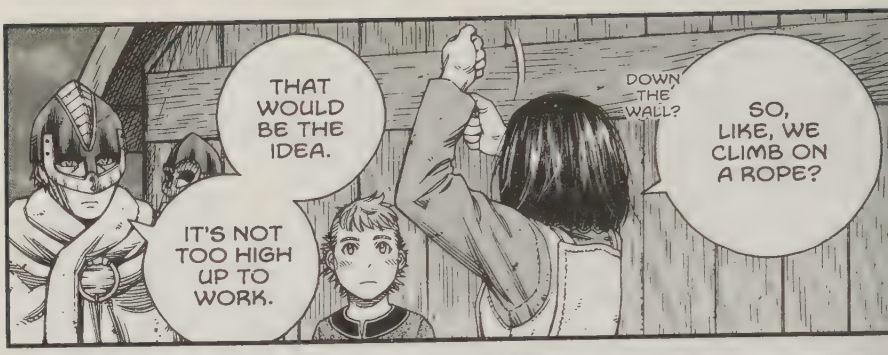
CHAPTER 150: WAR IN THE BALTIC (26)

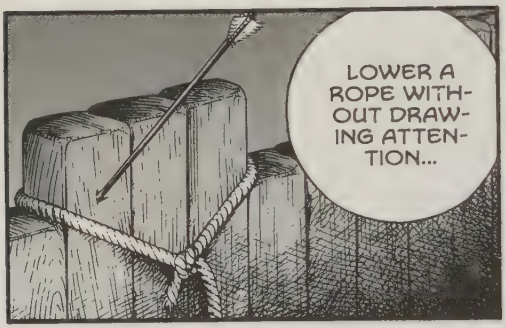

I'M SO SORRY.
IT SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE LIKE THIS...
PLEASE DON'T APOLOGIZE. YOU DID NOTHING WRONG.
I'M SURE I MUST HAVE LEFT SOME EVIDENCE AT THE WELL TO IDENTIFY ME.
IF I'M BEING TOTALLY HONEST HERE...
ACTU-ALLY... IT MIGHT'VE BEEN ME...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHOSE FAULT IT IS. THIS ISN'T WHAT WE SHOULD BE DISCUSS-ING.
ARE THERE ANY OTHER WAYS TO ESCAPE THIS PLACE?

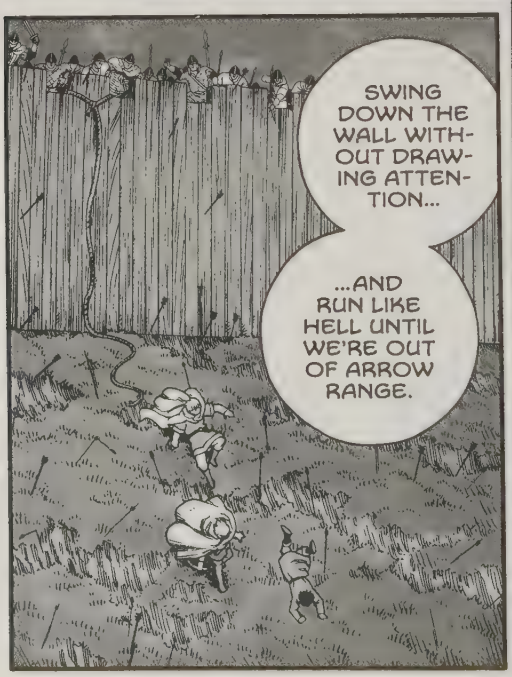

IGNORE ME!! I NEED NO TENDING!!
CH-CHIEF! PLEASE CALM DOWN!


CALM DOWN?! BALDR'S BEEN KID-NAPPED!!
GATHER EVERY LAST MAN WHO'S NOT ALREADY OCCUPIED!!

HE MUST STILL BE WITHIN THE FOR-TRESS SOME-WHERE!!
HURRY!! BALDR... WE MUST FIND BALDR!!

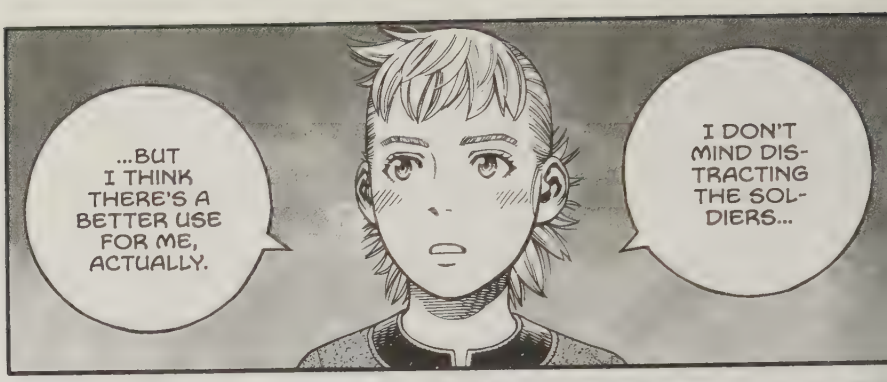

THAT WOULD BE THE IDEA.
IT'S NOT TOO HIGH UP TO WORK.
DOWN THE WALL?
SO, LIKE, WE CLIMB ON A ROPE?


LOWER A ROPE WITHOUT DRAWING ATTENTION...

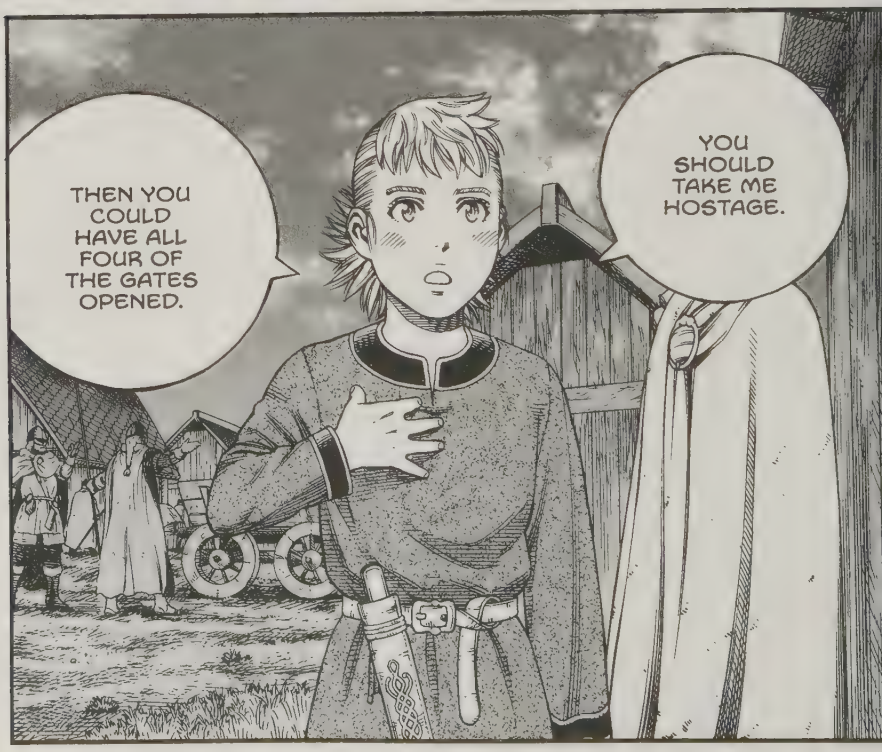

SWING DOWN THE WALL WITHOUT DRAWING ATTENTION...
...AND RUN LIKE HELL UNTIL WE'RE OUT OF ARROW RANGE.

WE'LL GO UP THE RAMPARTS WITHOUT DRAWING ATTENTION...

THE ONLY OTHER OPTIONS ARE...GOING THROUGH THE GATE OR CLIMBING DOWN THE WALLS.
AS FAR AS I KNOW, THE WELL WAS THE ONLY WAY...
GATE OR WALLS...
...THE WALL'S THE ONLY CHOICE...
NO WAY TO OPEN THE GATE WITH SO MANY WATCHING.


...BUT I THINK THERE'S A BETTER USE FOR ME, ACTUALLY.
I DON'T MIND DISTRACTING THE SOLDIERS...

"USE"?

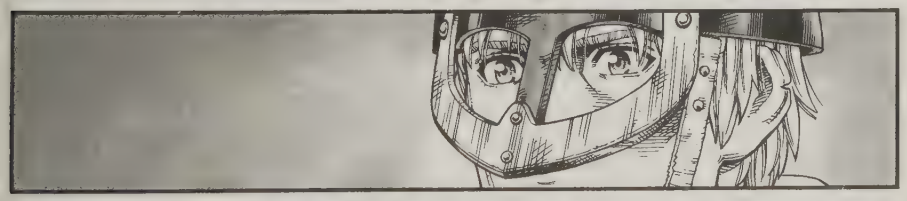

THEN YOU COULD HAVE ALL FOUR OF THE GATES OPENED.
YOU SHOULD TAKE ME HOSTAGE.

WE MIGHT BE DISGUISED FOR NOW...
...BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY DO NOTICE US, THORFINN?
WITHOUT DRAWING ATTEN-TION...
...
WE'RE IN TROU-BLE.
BALDR, COULD YOU GO TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FORTRESS AND DRAW THE SOLDIERS' ATTENTION WITH SOMETHING?
WE CAN USE THAT OPPOR-TUNITY TO ESCAPE.
...WE'RE... IN... TROUBLE...
YEAH, I'D SAY SO...

PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU.
TAKE ME SOME-WHERE... THAT'S NOT HERE.
...I INVITED HIM TO COME ALONG.
I ASKED IF HE WANTED TO...

AND IF YOU MANAGE TO GET AWAY...

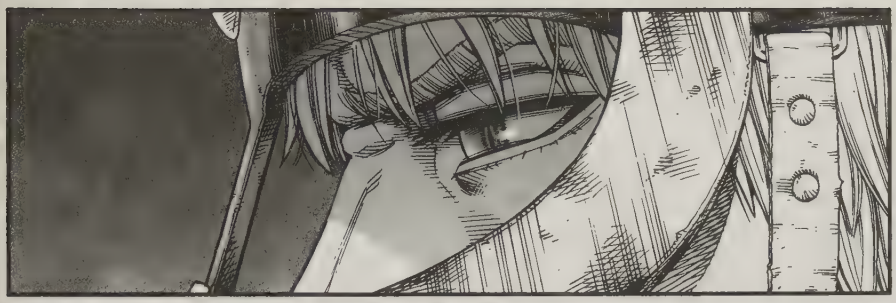
...WOULD YOU CONSIDER SIMPLY TAKING ME WITH YOU?

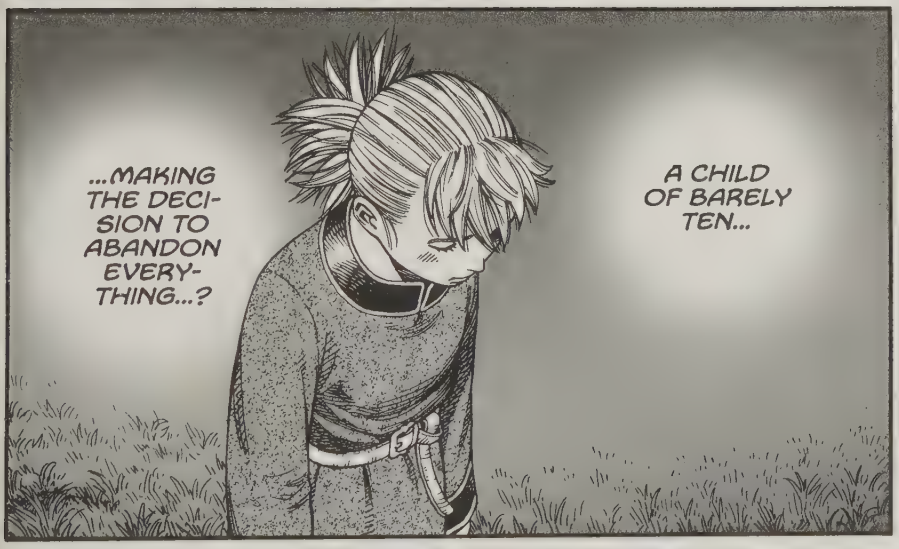


I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST FOR JOMSBORG IF I'M NOT HERE AT ALL.

AS IT IS, I REPRESENT THE AMBITION OF FLOKI, MY GRAND-FATHER.

RAAAAH
THWAP
CUT THEM OFF!! KILL THEM!!
THWAP
TH-THWP
THERE THEY ARE!! THE SPIES!!
CHANK
GET BACK HERE!
DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN



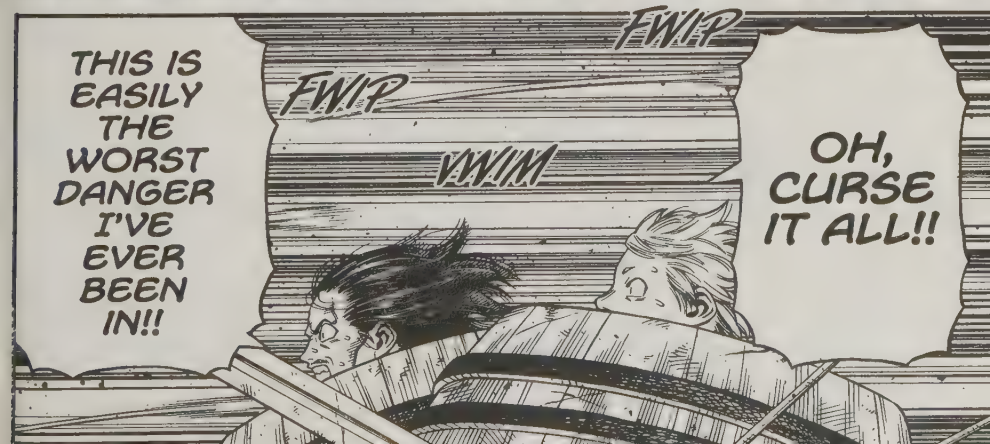

...MAKING THE DECI-SION TO ABANDON EVERY-THING...?
A CHILD OF BARELY TEN...

SO JOMSBORG MAKES A CHILD...
...WISH FOR "SOME-WHERE THAT ISN'T HERE"...

DUN
DUN
DUN
DUN
SHUT UP BEFORE I KILL YOU!!
SORRY, SIGGY. YOU KNOW HOW I GET GASSY WHEN I'M NERVOUS.
WHO SAID THAT?!
FWOOT
(TWO MINS EARLIER)
DASH
OH, DAM-MIT!
THEY'VE CUT US OFF!!
GO, FATTY!!
IT'S FINALLY TIME TO PUT THAT WEIGHT OF YOURS TO USE!!
HRRRRM!!

YAAAAA

DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN DUN



KAAAAA

BARREL YOUR WAY THROUGH THEM AGAIN!

NO MATTER! KEEP GOING!

HUH...?

WHY HAVEN'T ANY OF THEM NOTICED US?

AAAH!

OOF!

BARREL BLASTER!!

WHOMP

GNG!

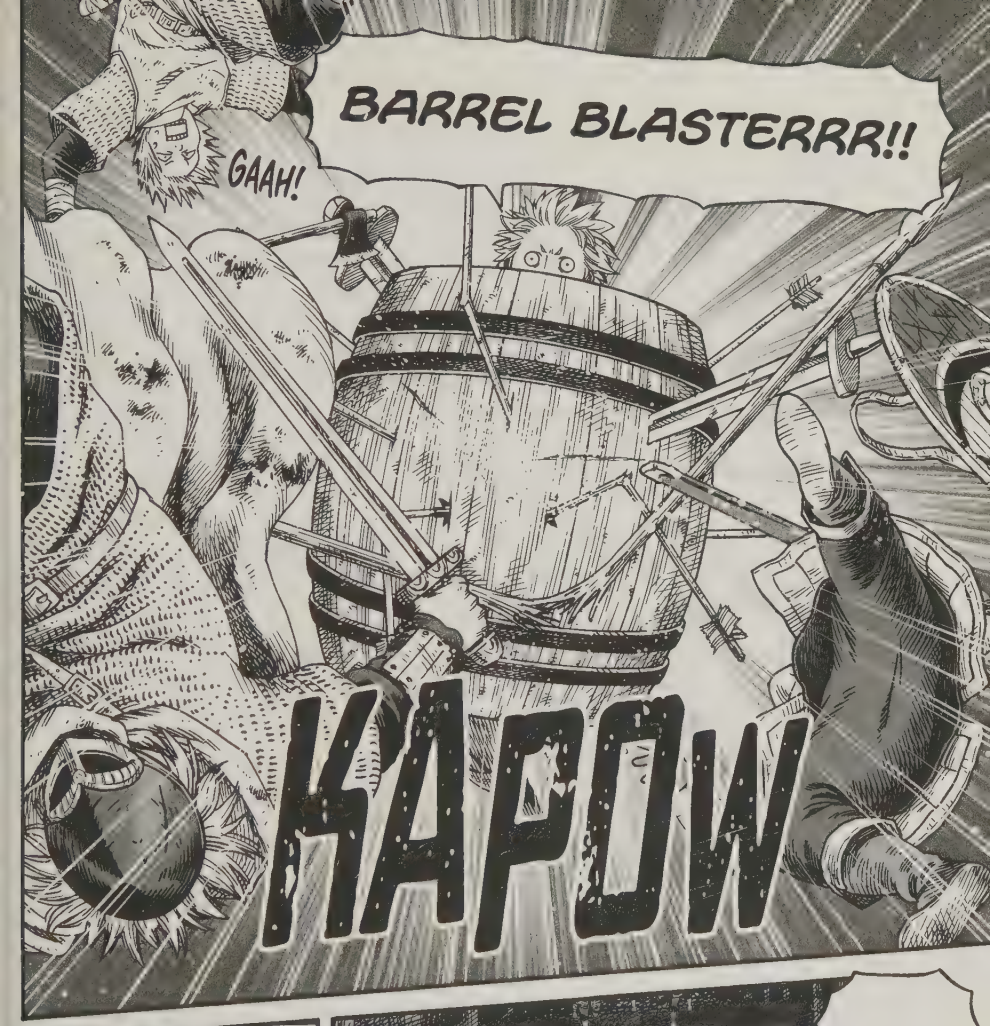
WHAT THE-?!

WH-WHAT'S THIS...?

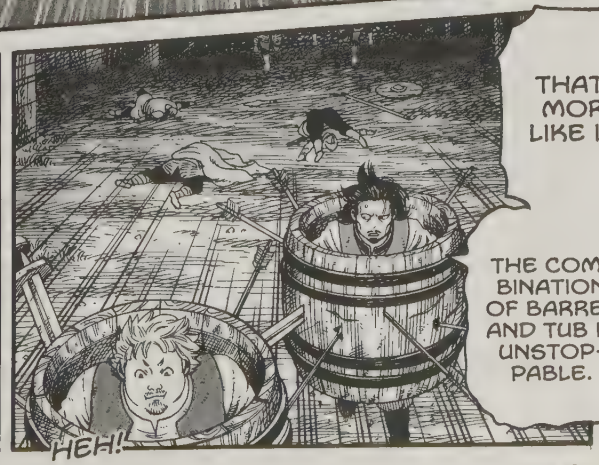
?!

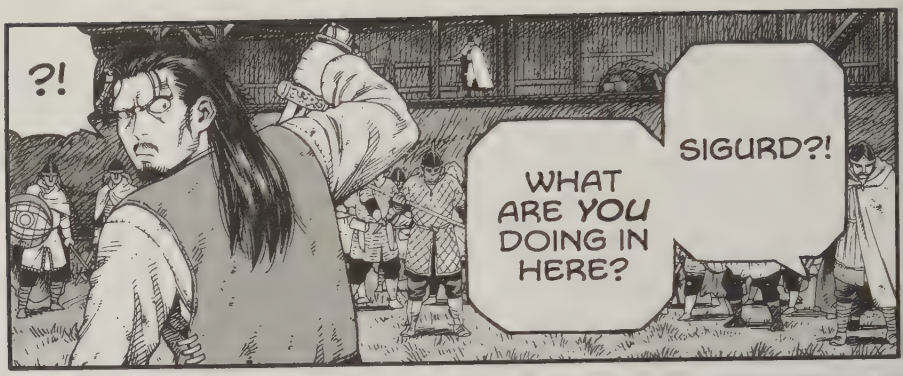
!

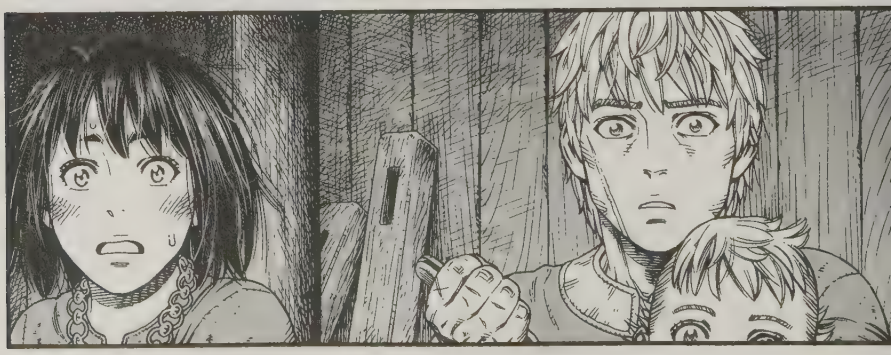
ISH


BARREL BLASTERRR!!
GAAH!
HAPOW

!
THERE THEY ARE AGAIN!


THAT'S MORE LIKE IT...
THE COMBINATION OF BARREL AND TUB IS UNSTOPPABLE.
HEH!

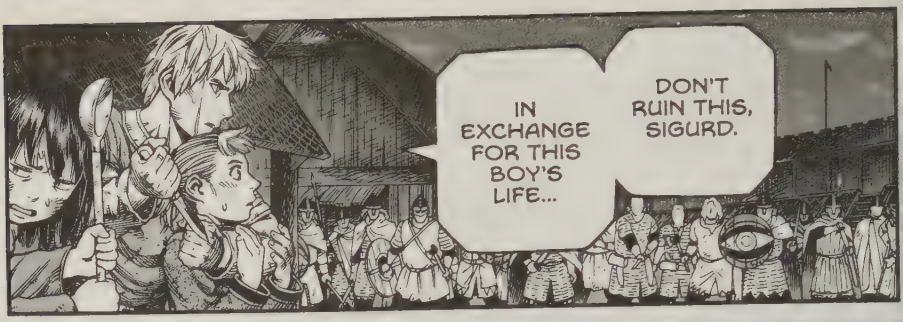

?!
SIGURD?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?

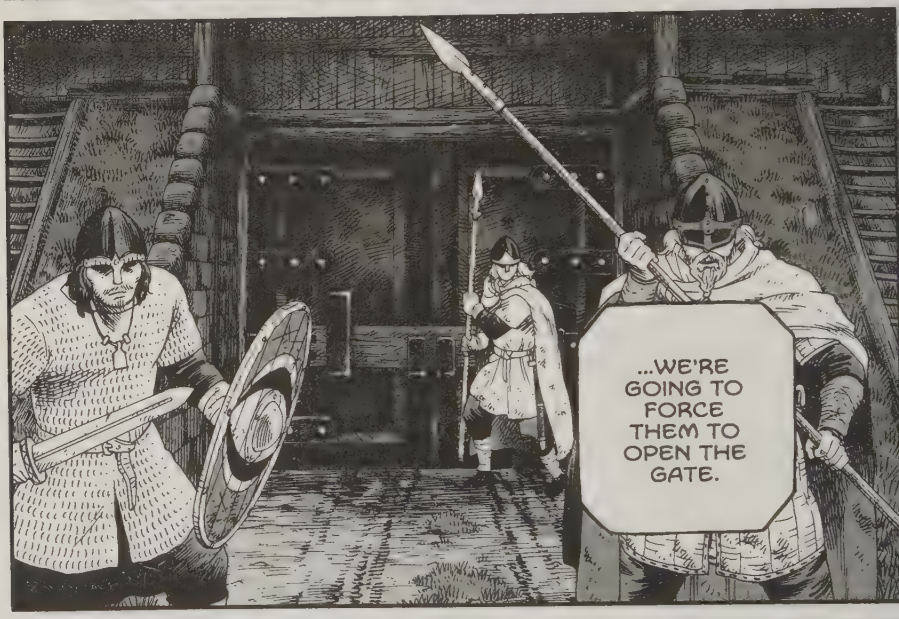


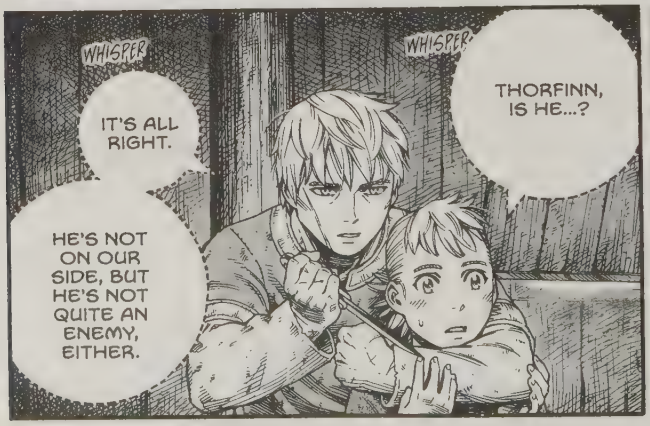
WE'RE SURROUNDED, SIGGY!

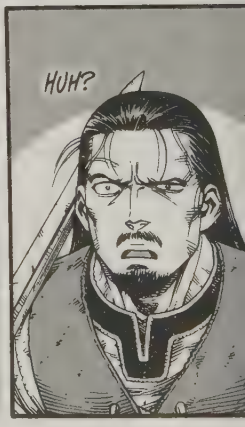
DAMMIT!

HOW MANY OF THEM *ARE* THERE, ANYWAY?

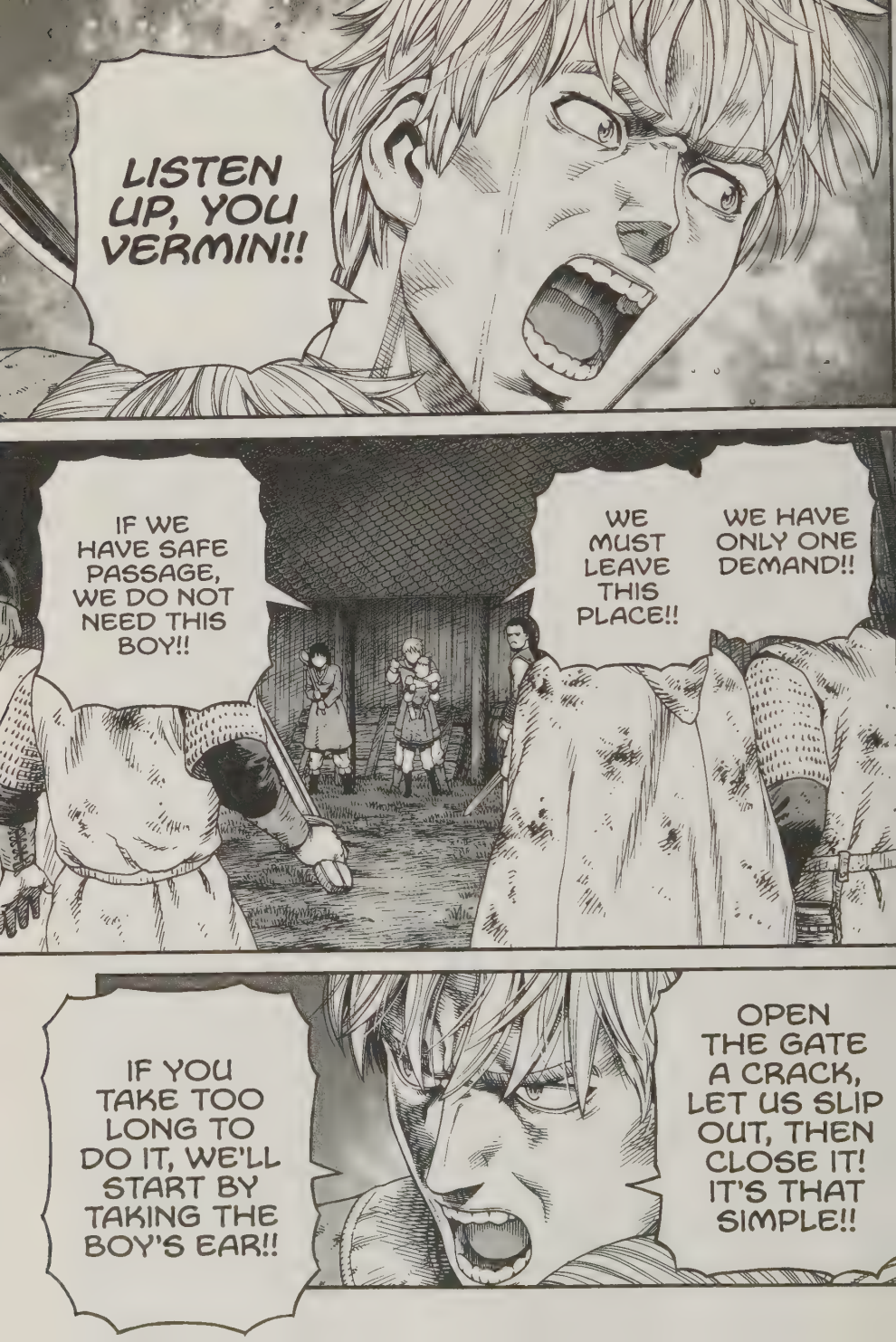

IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS BOY'S LIFE...
DON'T RUIN THIS, SIGURD.

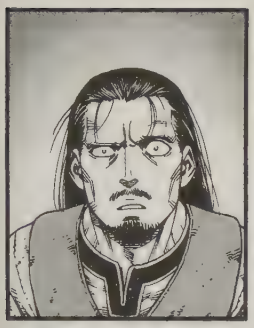

...WE'RE GOING TO FORCE THEM TO OPEN THE GATE.


WHISPER
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
HE'S NOT ON OUR SIDE, BUT HE'S NOT QUITE AN ENEMY, EITHER.
WHISPER
THORFINN, IS HE...?


HUH?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU, CURSE IT ALL!!
THOR-FINN!! GUDRID!!
...HUH? WHAT'S THIS?
YOU HAVE SOME BOY HELD HOS-TAGE?
KEH!
I'VE LOST RESPECT FOR YOU, THORFINN!

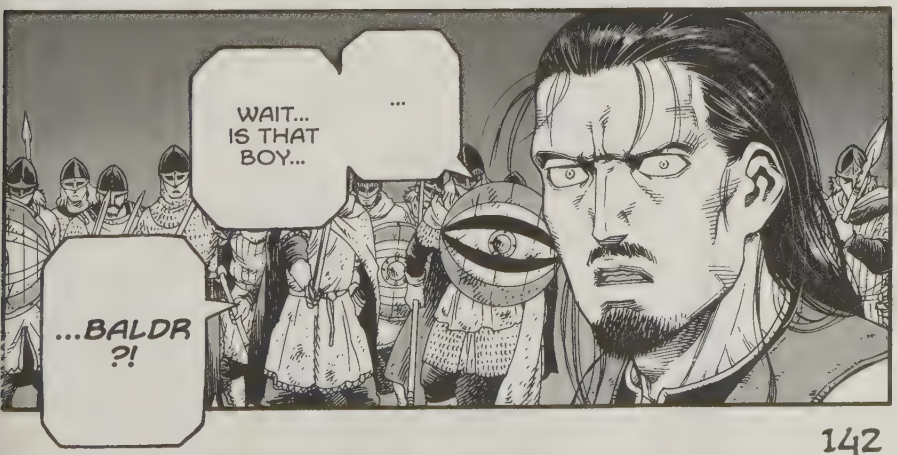

LISTEN UP, YOU VERMIN!!
IF WE HAVE SAFE PASSAGE, WE DO NOT NEED THIS BOY!!
WE MUST LEAVE THIS PLACE!!
WE HAVE ONLY ONE DEMAND!!
IF YOU TAKE TOO LONG TO DO IT, WE'LL START BY TAKING THE BOY'S EAR!!
OPEN THE GATE A CRACK, LET US SLIP OUT, THEN CLOSE IT! IT'S THAT SIMPLE!!

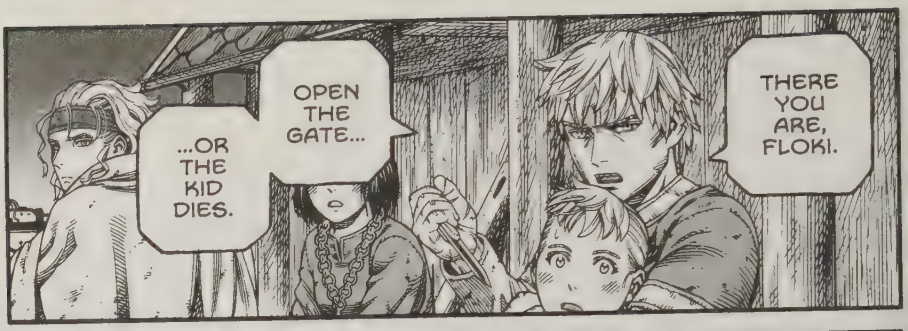


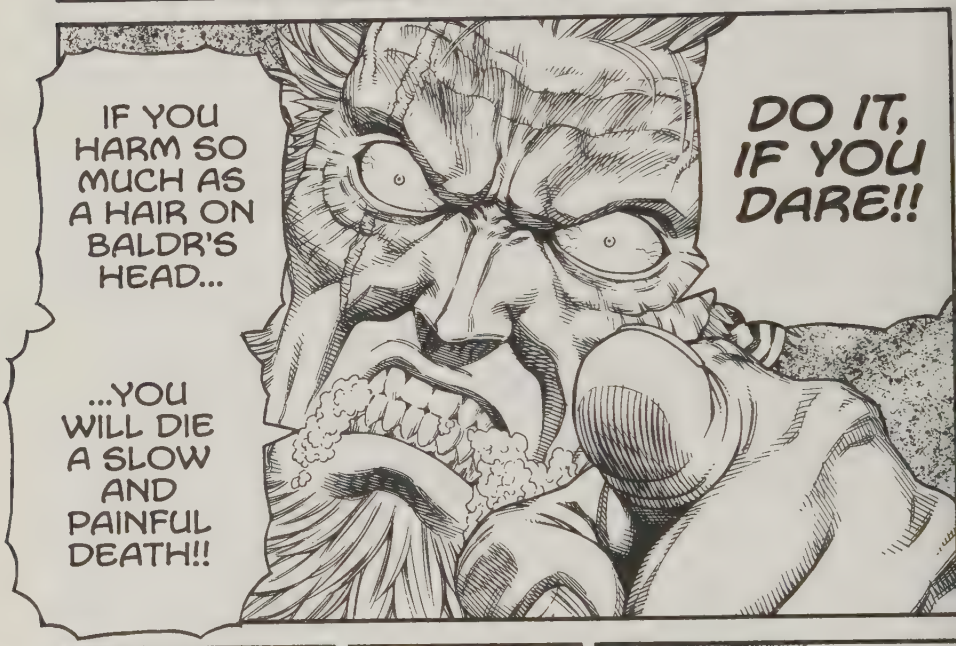
DON'T BE A FOOL! DO YOU REALLY THINK THE PROUD AND DEADLY JOMS-VIKINGS WOULD BE SWAYED BY THE LIFE OF A MERE CHILD...

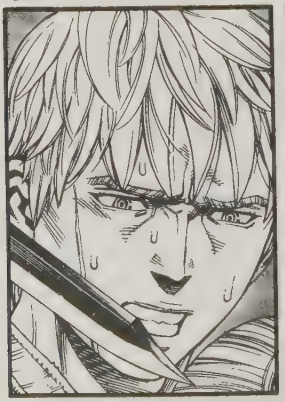
MURMUR
MURMUR
CLANK

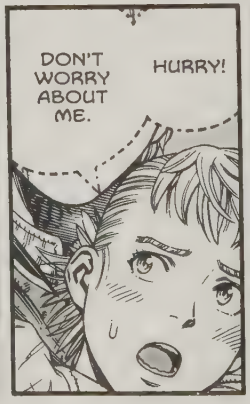
CLANK
MMM...


...
WAIT... IS THAT BOY...
...BALDR ?!

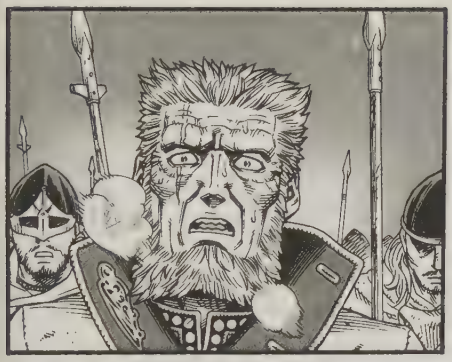

THERE YOU ARE, FLOKI.
OPEN THE GATE...
...OR THE KID DIES.


DO IT, IF YOU DARE!!
IF YOU HARM SO MUCH AS A HAIR ON BALDR'S HEAD...
...YOU WILL DIE A SLOW AND PAINFUL DEATH!!



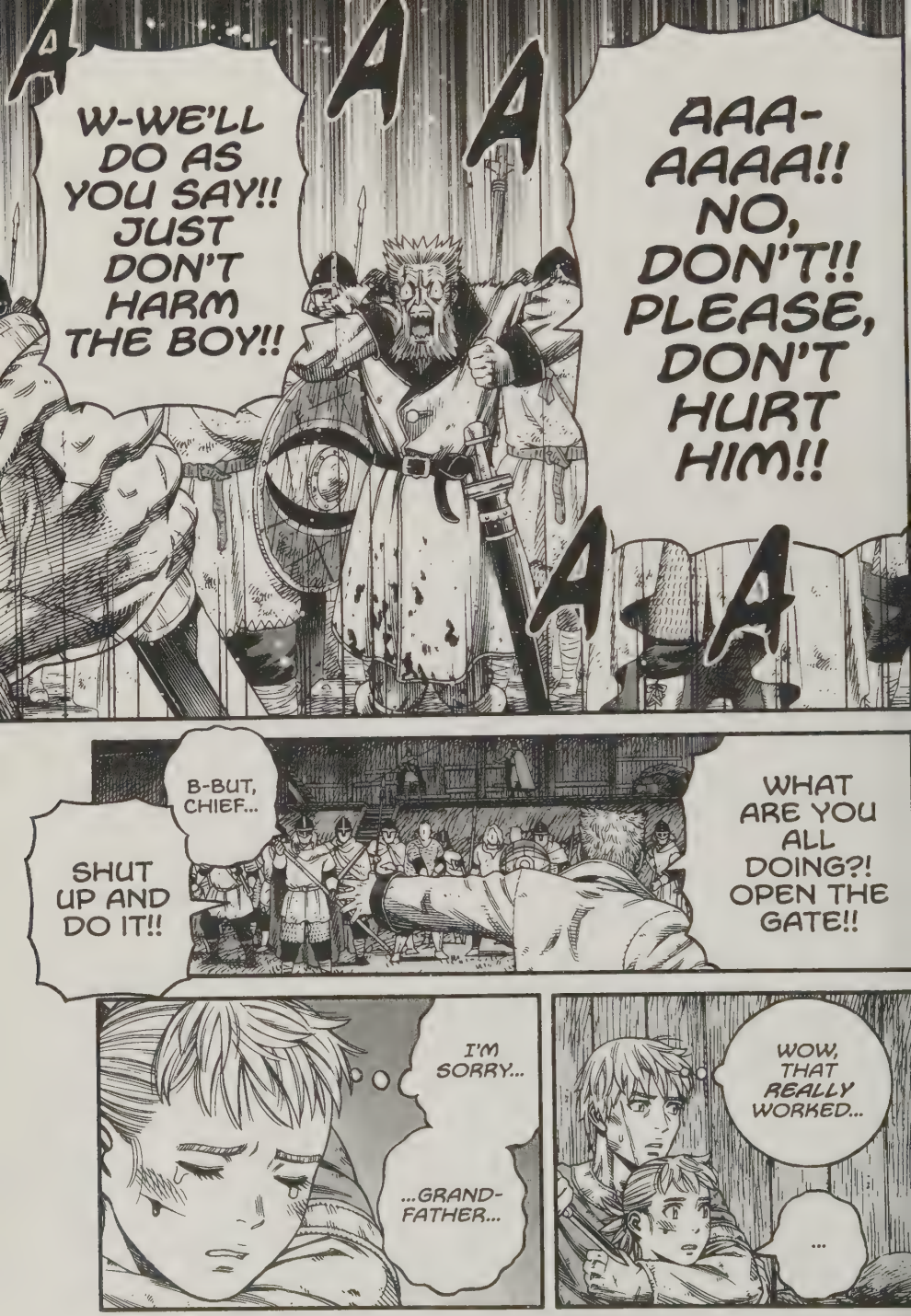

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
HURRY!

DO IT, THORFINN.



THIS WAY, CHIEF-TAIN.
TEK
TEK
TEK

YOU... YOU MON-STER!!
I WILL GUT YOU... I WILL GUT YOU LIKE A FISH!!
WOBBLE
TH...
THOR...
...FINN!

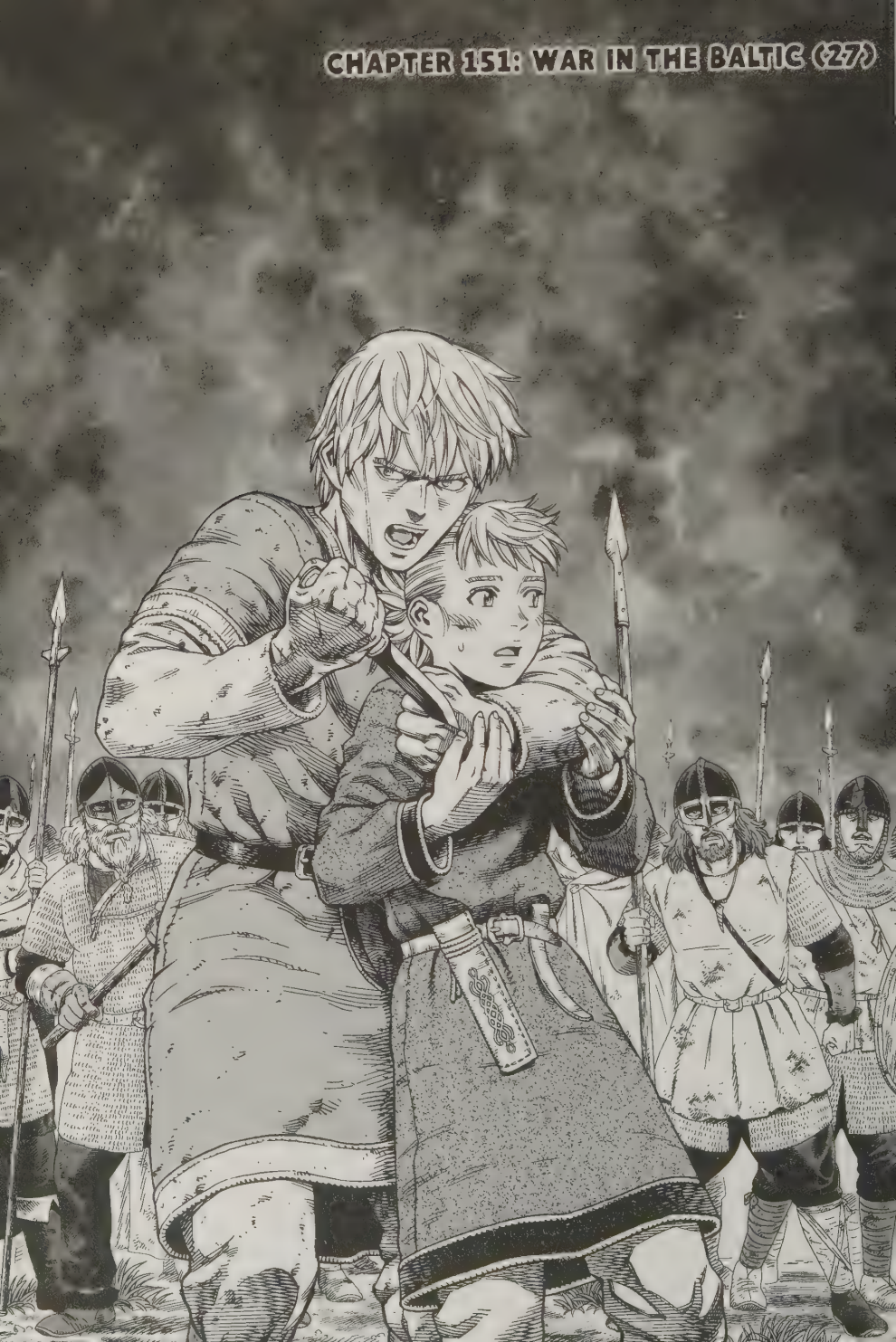

W-WE'LL DO AS YOU SAY!! JUST DON'T HARM THE BOY!!
AAA-AAAA!! NO, DON'T!! PLEASE, DON'T HURT HIM!!
B-BUT, CHIEF...
SHUT UP AND DO IT!!
WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING?! OPEN THE GATE!!
I'M SORRY...
...GRAND-FATHER...
WOW, THAT REALLY WORKED...
...

SHWIP
ACK
?!
AAH!
OUCH! IT HURTS!!
GRAND-FATHER, SAVE ME!!
OOH!
OOZE...

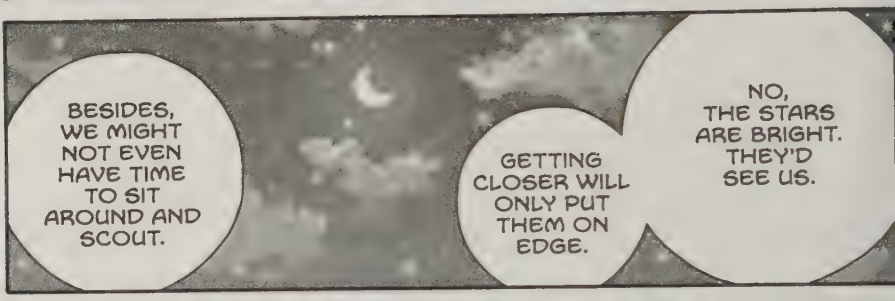
VINLAND SAGA

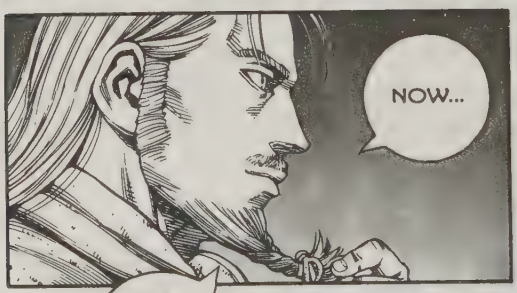
RAAA
AAH
AH! THORFINN!
AND MASTER FLOKI!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE? THAT LOOKS FUN!
WHY, I CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU FOR A SECOND.
RAAAH
YOU SHOULDN'T GO KICK-ING OFF THE PARTY WITHOUT ME.

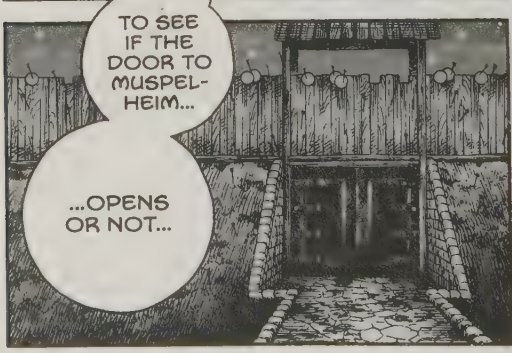
CHAPTER 151: WAR IN THE BALTIC (27)

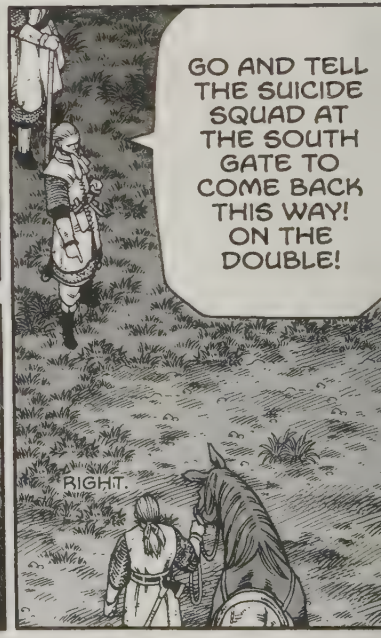


SHOULD WE SEND A SCOUT?
WELL, I TOLD HIM TO DO THE *SOUTHERN* GATE...
...BUT THIS WORKS, TOO.


BESIDES, WE MIGHT NOT EVEN HAVE TIME TO SIT AROUND AND SCOUT.
GETTING CLOSER WILL ONLY PUT THEM ON EDGE.
NO, THE STARS ARE BRIGHT. THEY'D SEE US.


NOW...

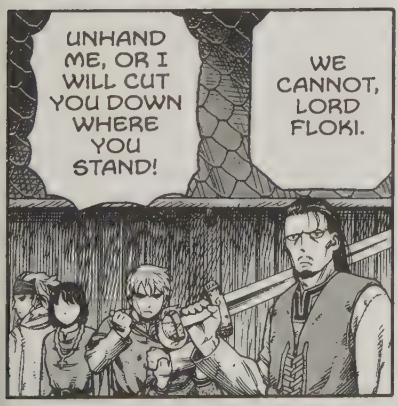

TO SEE IF THE DOOR TO MUSPEL-HEIM...
...OPENS OR NOT...


GO AND TELL THE SUICIDE SQUAD AT THE SOUTH GATE TO COME BACK THIS WAY! ON THE DOUBLE!
RIGHT.

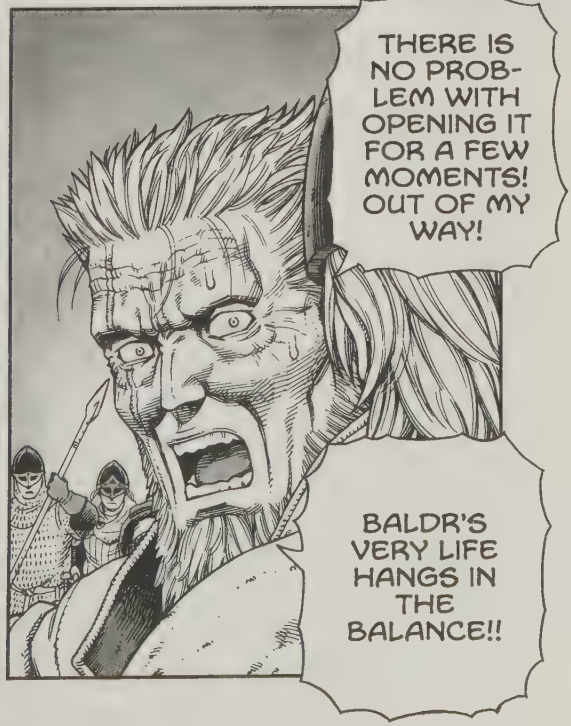
RAAAAA
IT'S NOISY IN THERE.
...AH, INDEED.
DO YOU THINK SPUNKY DID IT, ASGEIR?
THERE'S SOMETHING HAPPENING RIGHT INSIDE THE NORTHERN GATE.

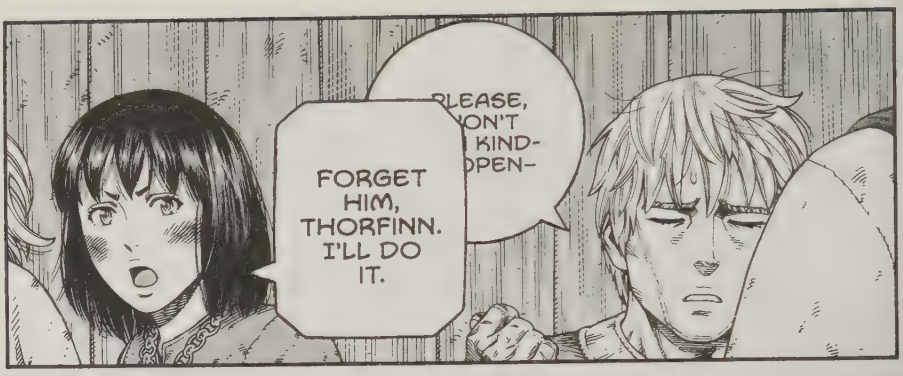
PSST...
THE ARCHERS ARE IN PLACE, CHIEF.
THEY CAN LOOSE AT ANY TIME.
KEEP THEM THERE FOR NOW.
NO ARROWS YET. BALDR IS TOO CLOSE TO THORFINN.
WHY WON'T YOU OBEY MY ORDERS?!
AND OUTSIDE?
FORGIVE ME, CHIEFTAIN!!
WE HAVE EIGHT MEN.
THEY WENT THE LONG WAY AROUND TO AVOID DETECTION. JUST A BIT MORE TIME FOR THEM TO GET IN PLACE.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE HUBBUB OVER THERE, ANYWAY?
JUST OPEN THE STUPID GATE.
...
HURRY! OPEN THE DAMNED GATE!

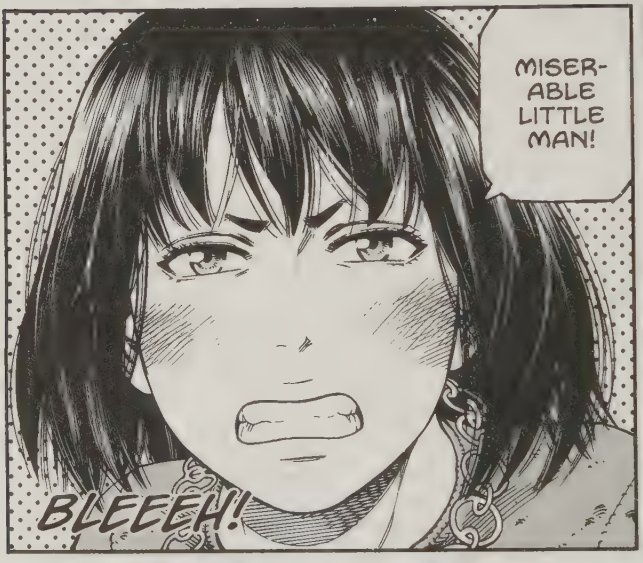
WE CANNOT OPEN THE GATE, SIR! PLEASE STAND BACK!
CHIEFTAIN! PLEASE, YOU MUST CALM DOWN!

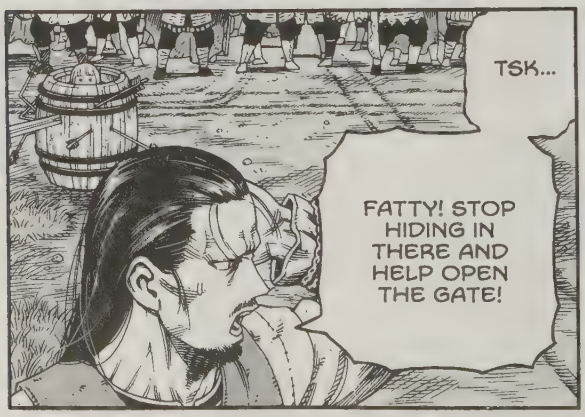

UNHAND ME, OR I WILL CUT YOU DOWN WHERE YOU STAND!
WE CANNOT, LORD FLOKI.

ALL RIGHT.
...
LET GO OF ME-EE!


THERE IS NO PROB-LEM WITH OPENING IT FOR A FEW MOMENTS! OUT OF MY WAY!
BALDR'S VERY LIFE HANGS IN THE BALANCE!!

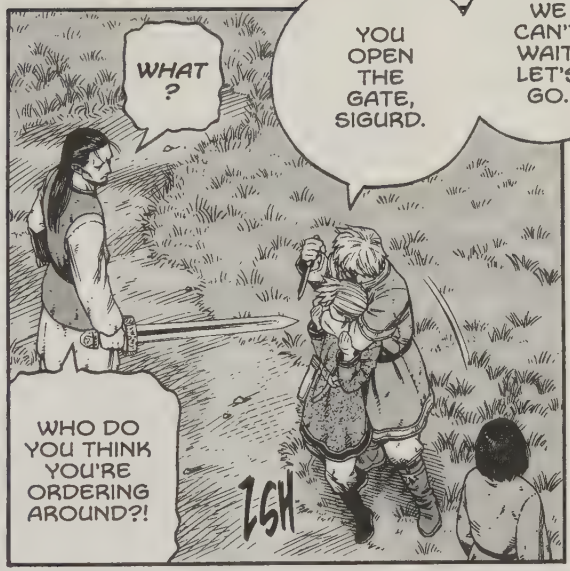

PLEASE, DON'T KIND- OPEN-
FORGET HIM, THORFINN. I'LL DO IT.

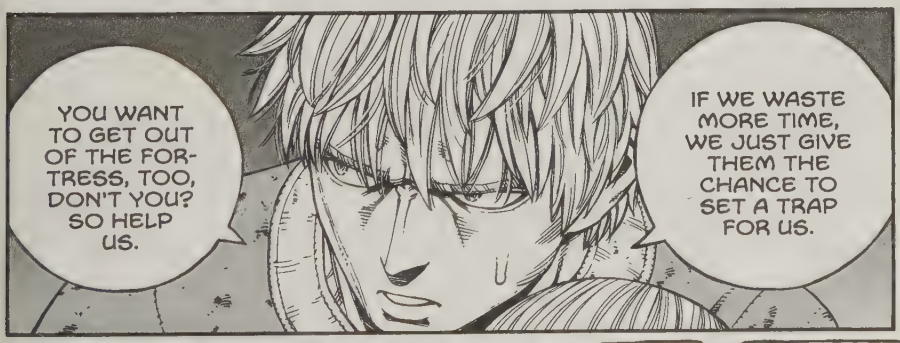

MISER-ABLE LITTLE MAN!
BLEEEH!

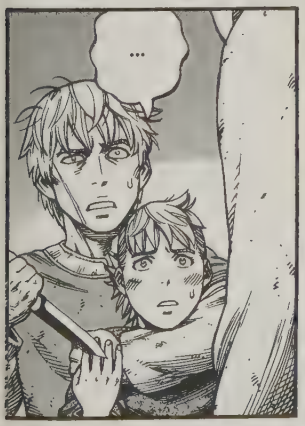

TSK...
FATTY! STOP HIDING IN THERE AND HELP OPEN THE GATE!

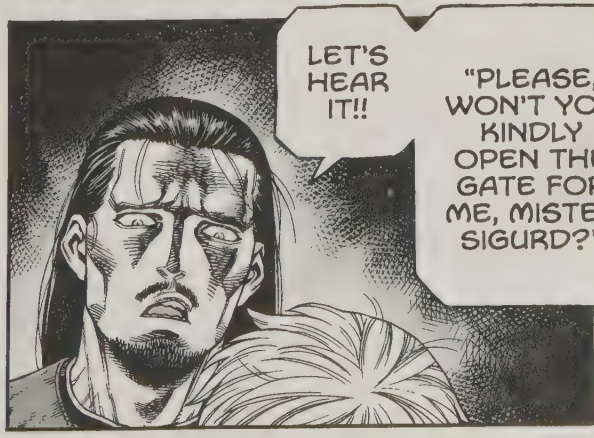
WHAT?! HEY-
GET BACK HERE!

SHUT UP! I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM YOU!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR SQUABBLING!


WHAT ?
YOU OPEN THE GATE, SIGURD.
WE CAN'T WAIT. LET'S GO.
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE ORDERING AROUND?!
ZSH


YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF THE FORTRESS, TOO, DON'T YOU? SO HELP US.
IF WE WASTE MORE TIME, WE JUST GIVE THEM THE CHANCE TO SET A TRAP FOR US.


...


LET'S HEAR IT!!
"PLEASE, WON'T YOU KINDLY OPEN THE GATE FOR ME, MISTER SIGURD?"

SWEAR TO YOUR GOD THAT YOU WILL RELEASE BALDR WHEN YOU LEAVE THE GATE.

MOVE! OUT OF THE WAY!

THERE WILL BE NO PASSAGE UNLESS YOU SWEAR.

I'LL RELEASE HIM ONCE WE'RE OUTSIDE OF THE RANGE OF YOUR ARROWS.

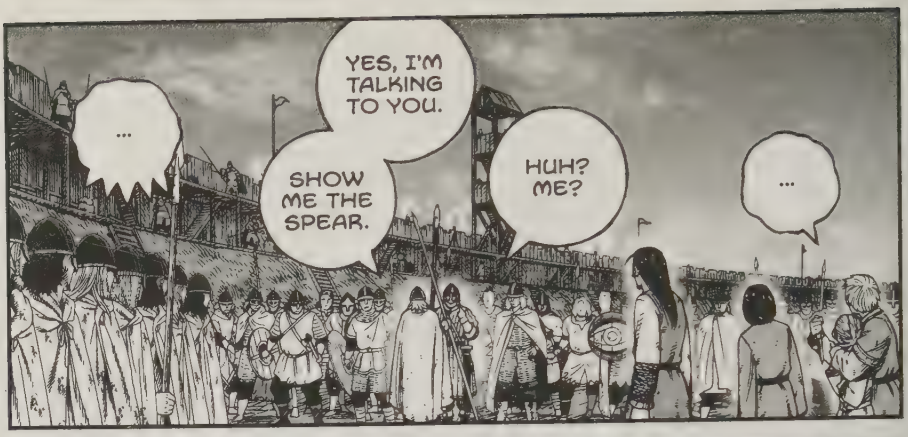
...YOU WANT TO HEAR HIM SCREAM AGAIN?

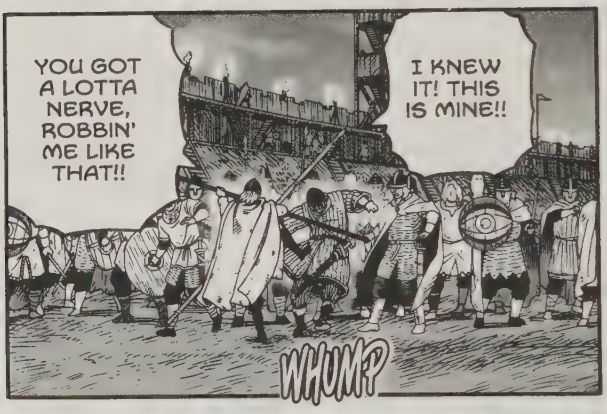
HOOO

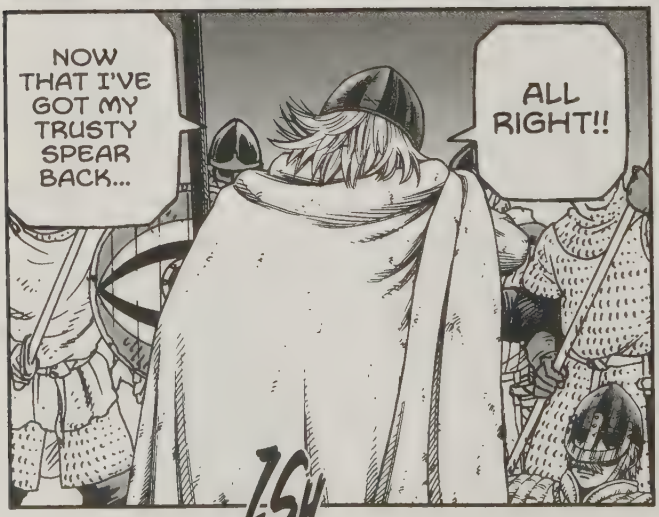
YOU GUARDS AT THE GATE! MOVE!

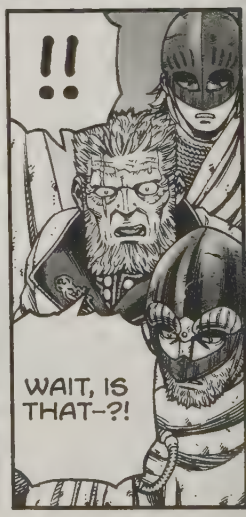
H

GUDRI! DON'T STRAY TOO FAR, OR THEY'LL TAKE YOU CAPTIVE!


...
YES, I'M TALKING TO YOU.
SHOW ME THE SPEAR.
HUH? ME?
...


YOU GOT A LOTTA NERVE, ROBBIN' ME LIKE THAT!!
I KNEW IT! THIS IS MINE!!
WHUMP


NOW THAT I'VE GOT MY TRUSTY SPEAR BACK...
ALL RIGHT!!
ZSH


!!
WAIT, IS THAT–?!

HEY, YOU!! THAT SPEAR!!
AAAAH!!
STOMP STOMP
LET ME SEE THAT SPEAR OF YOURS.
YOU THERE! YES, YOU!

WHY NOW?!

GARM ...!!

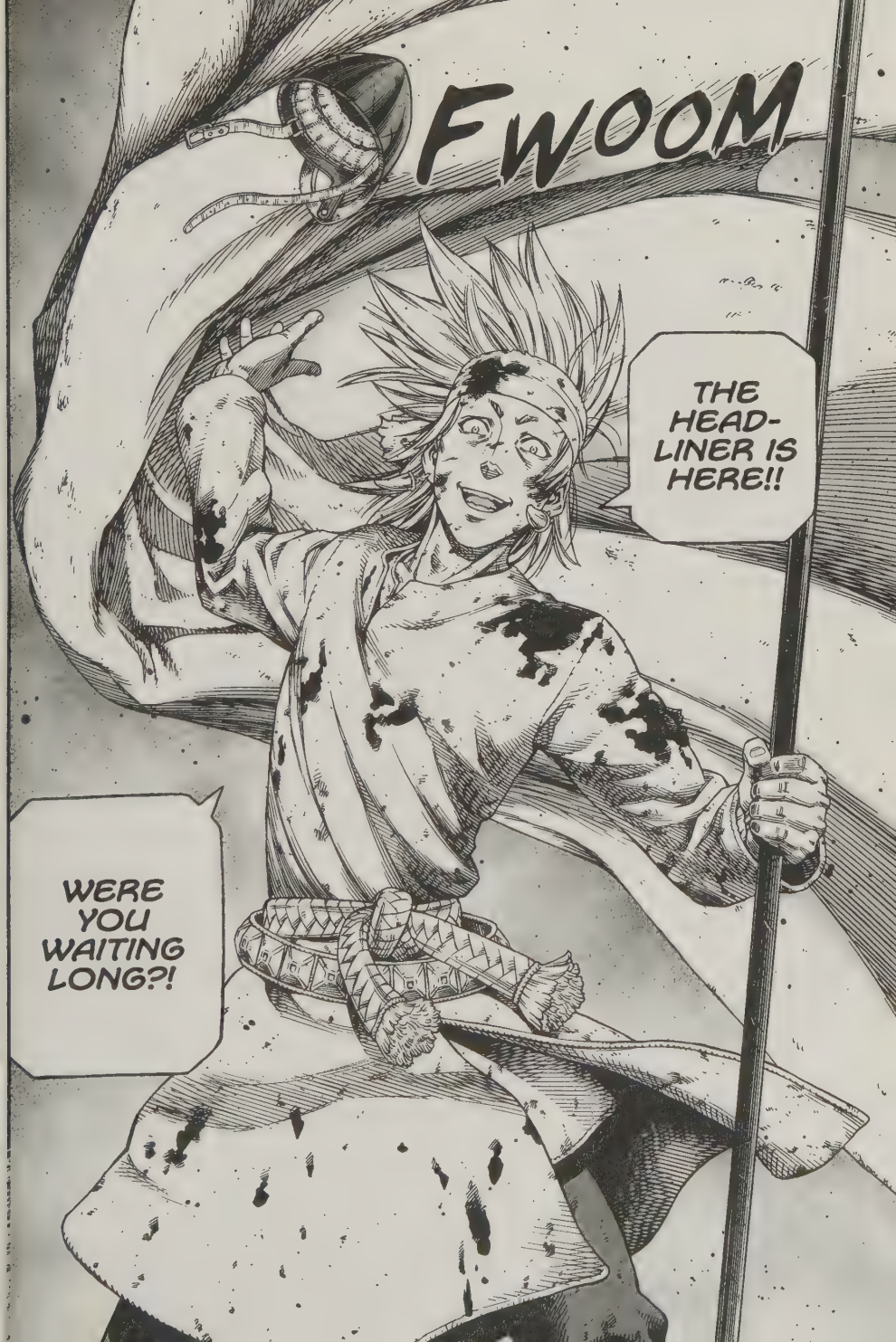
FIGHT ME, THOR-FINN!!

THE STAGE IS SET!!

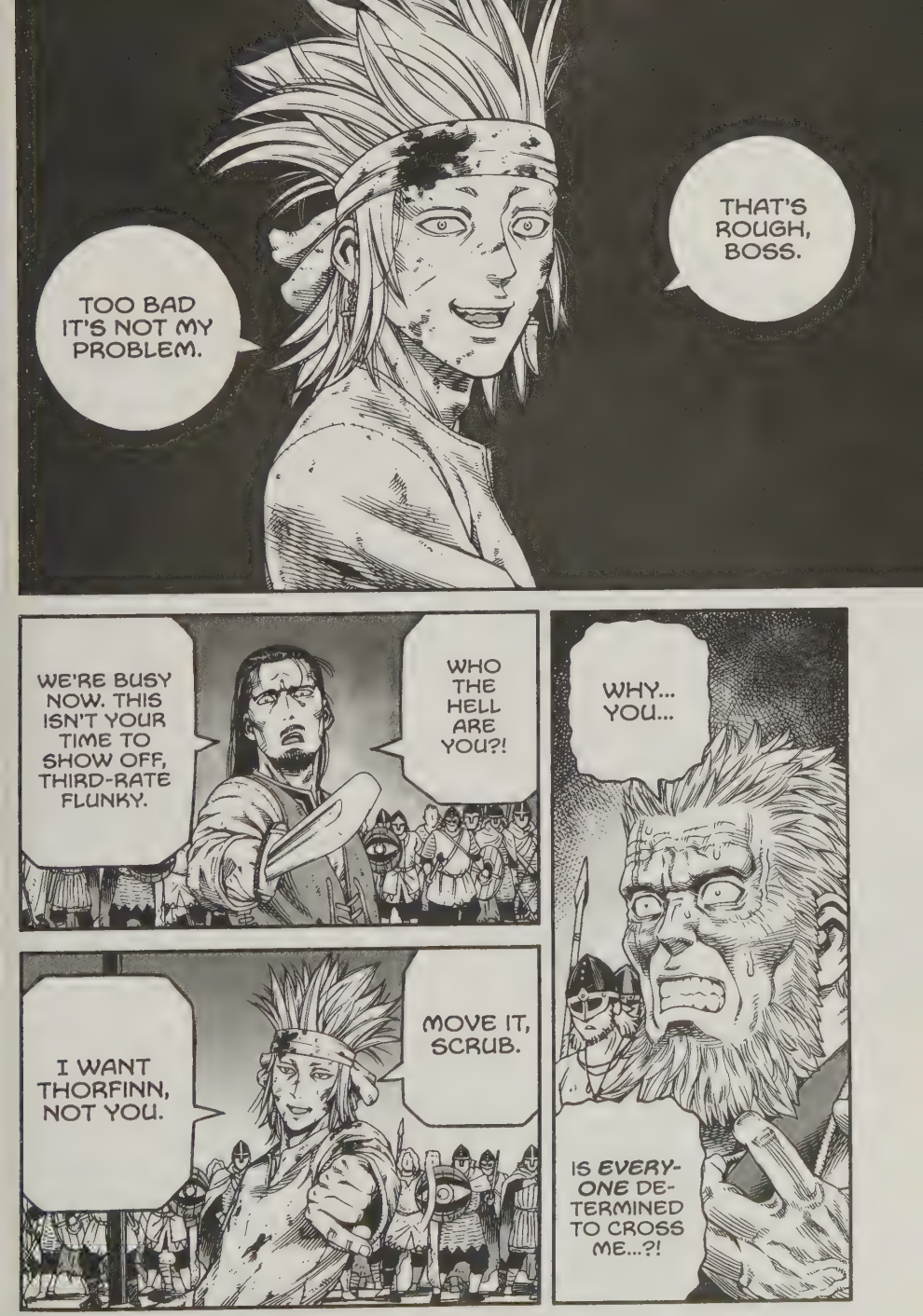
LET'S FIGHT! FIGHT NOW! TIME TO FIGHT!

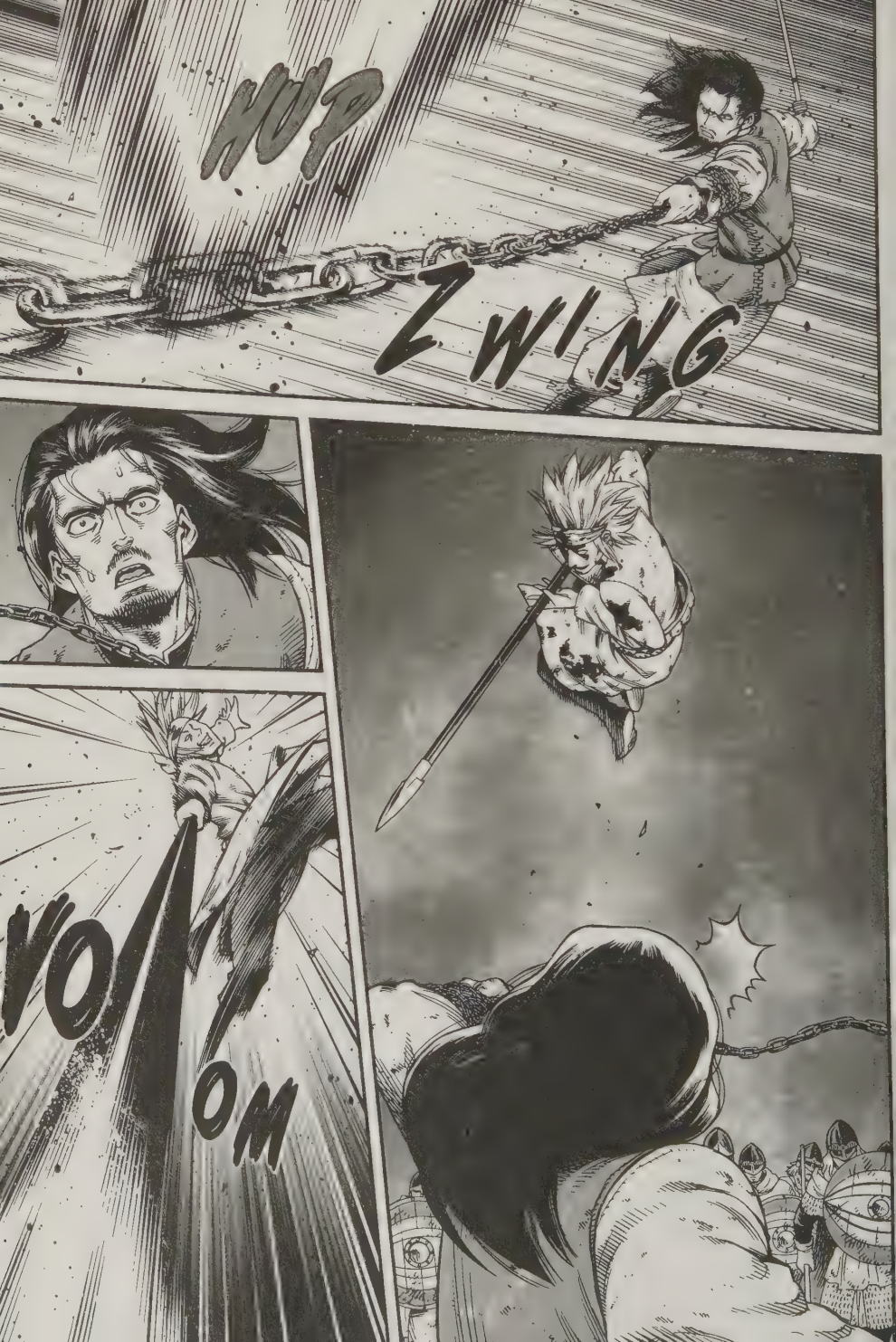
BALDR IS HELP CAPTIVE! DON'T AGITATE THORFINN!!

STOP THIS, GARM!!


FWOOM
THE HEAD-LINER IS HERE!!
WERE YOU WAITING LONG?!

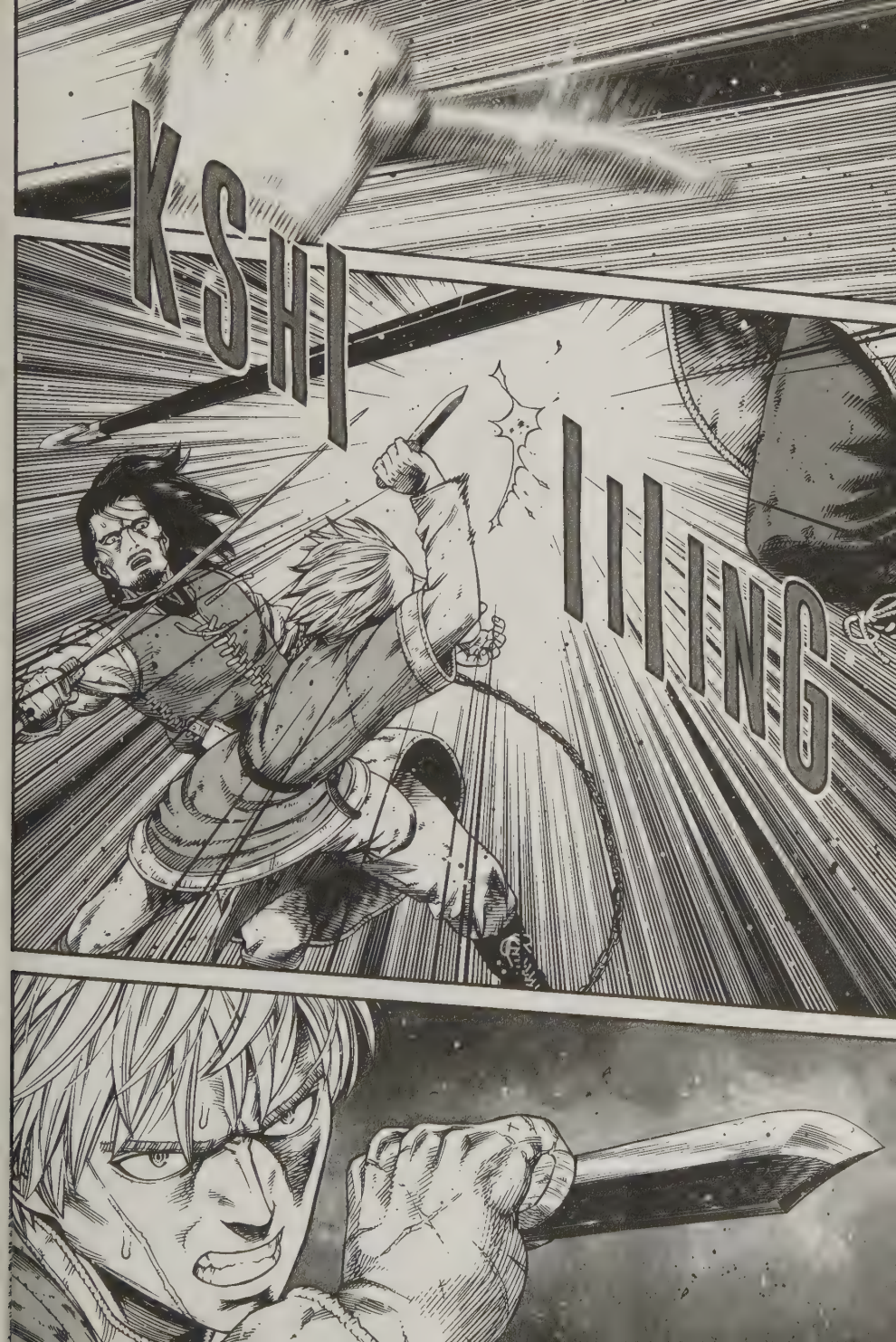
KRAK-
CRAK!
SIGURD, DON'T!!
YOU CAN'T BEAT HIM!!
THEN MAKE ME MOVE.
BY FORCE.
JANGLE...
LOOSE ARROWS!!
SHOOT GARM!!


TOO BAD IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.
THAT'S ROUGH, BOSS.
WE'RE BUSY NOW. THIS ISN'T YOUR TIME TO SHOW OFF, THIRD-RATE FLUNKY.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
I WANT THORFINN, NOT YOU.
MOVE IT, SCRUB.
WHY... YOU...
IS EVERY-ONE DE-TERMINED TO CROSS ME...?!

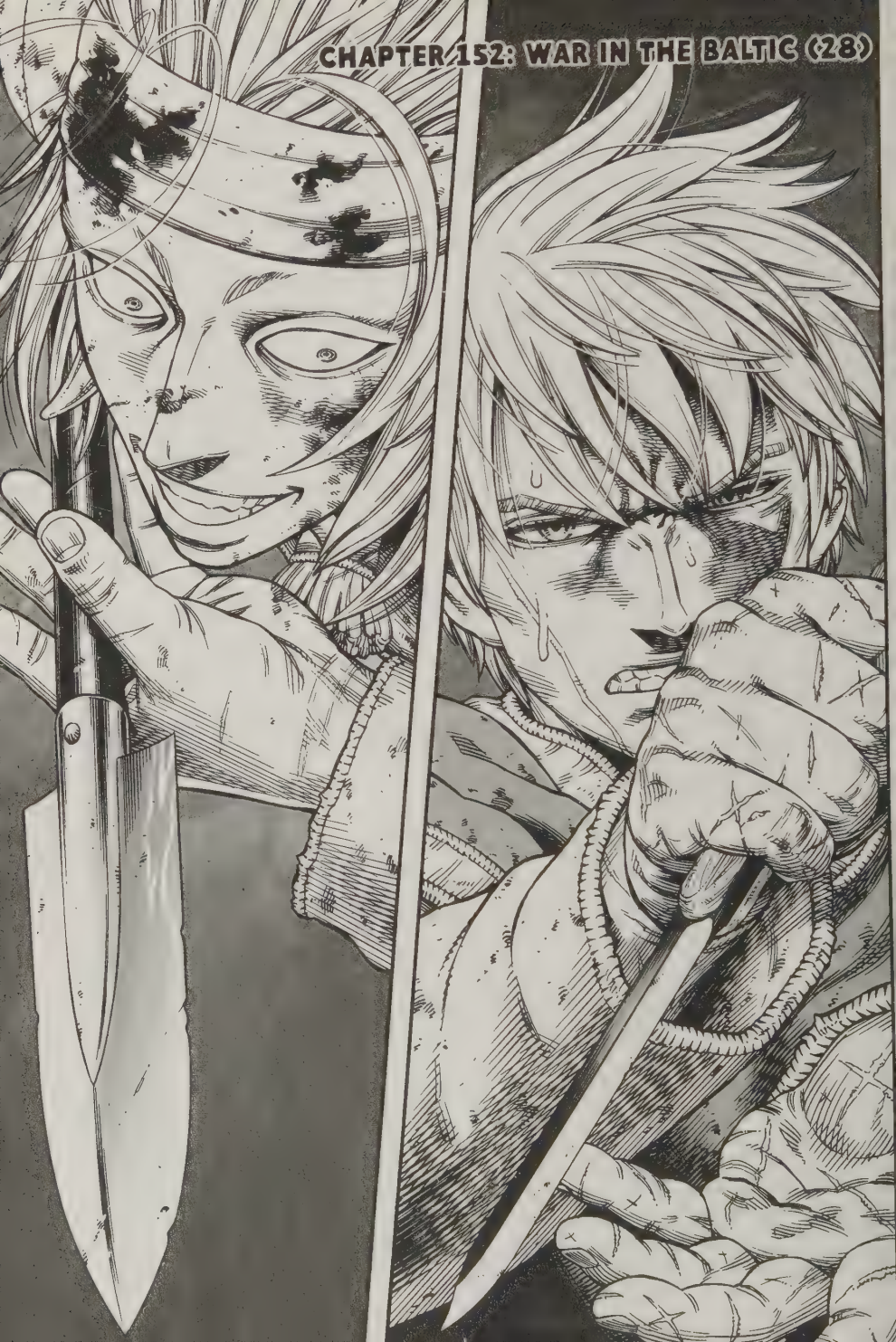

HUP
ZWING
ro
OM

TUN
TO-TON
TUN
ZWOOM
TH-WAP
TH-THWP
TH-WAP
SHING
?!
HE'S FAST!!

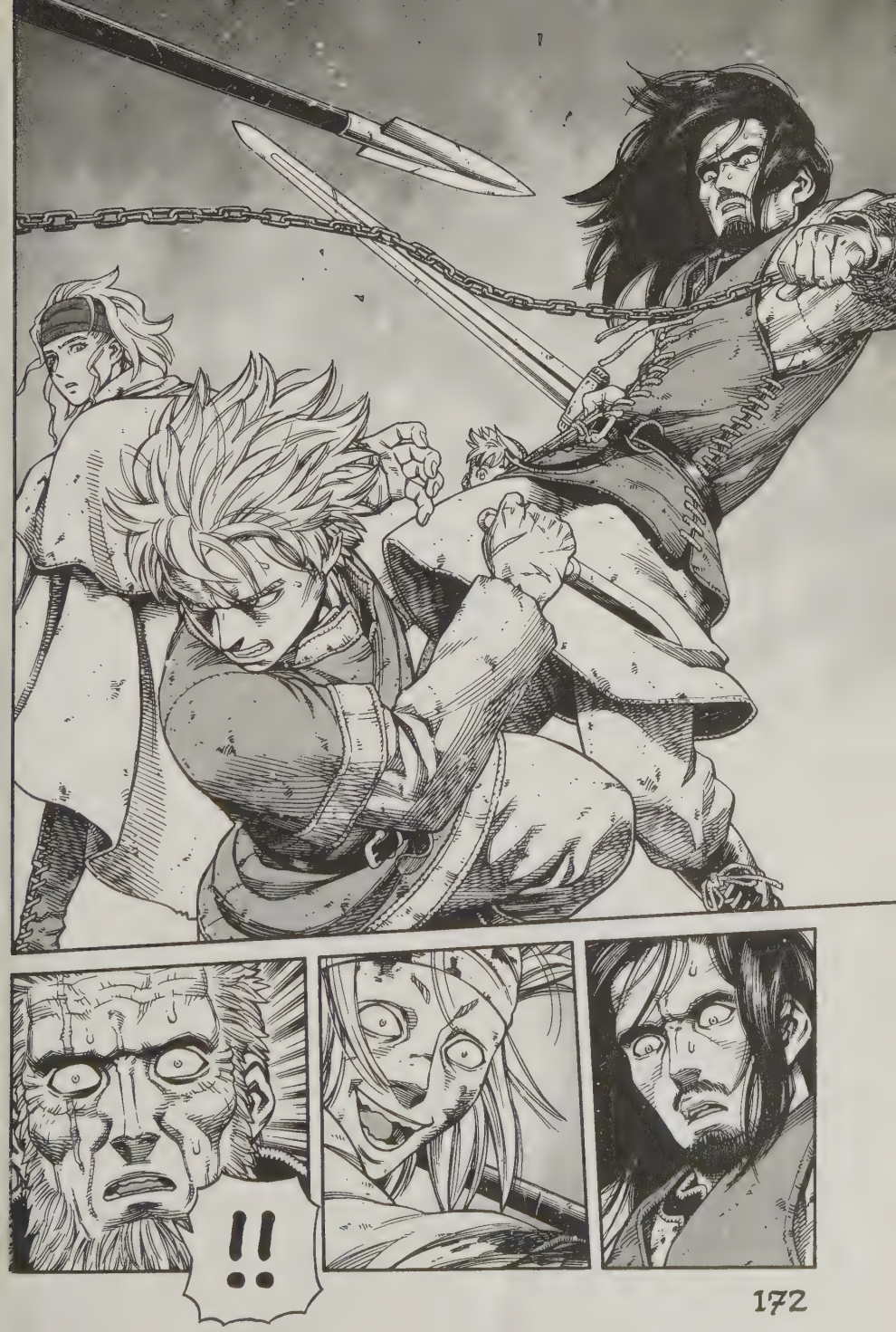
VINLAND SAGA


KSHI
IIING

CHAPTER 152: WAR IN THE BALTIC (28)



BALDR'S FREE OF THOR-FINN!!
THEY'RE SEPA-RATED!!
I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH HIM!! YOU HAN-DLE THE HOSTAGE!! NOW!!
HUH ?
SIGURD!! HOLD DOWN BALDR!!
SINCE WHEN DOES SIGURD, SON OF HALFDAN, STOOP TO TAKING CHILDREN HOSTAGE FOR...
WHAT?! SAVE YOUR JOKES, FOOL!!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! SHOOT THORFINN, YOU CRETINS!!
B-BUT A STRAY ARROW MIGHT HIT ONE OF OUR OWN...
JUST DO IT! SHOOT!!
SO YOU'RE READY TO FIGHT ME AT LAST, THORFINN?!
I'M SO GLAD!!
ZWOOMF
HNG!
WHUP
VMM

THUD
SWISWISH
SWISH
VWIM
FWIM
THUD
THUD THUD
HUP
GAAAH!!
AAH!!
TOK
TAK
TOTOTOK
SIGURD !!!!

I'LL REALLY GIVE IT TO HIM!!

OR I'LL... SO HELP ME, I'LL...

DON'T YOU DARE STEP ANY CLOSER!!

GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU!

YEAH?! YEAH?!

UMM...

CLANK

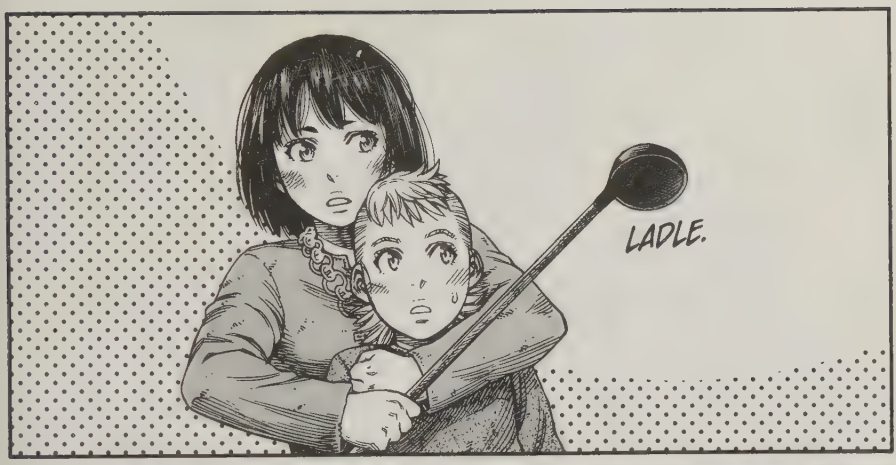
ZZSH

...WITH THAT?

GIVE IT TO HIM...

DSH DSH
NOW!! RETRIEVE LORD BALDR!!
AAAHH
STAY BACK!!
I'LL HAVE TO...
SHIT!!

SWHIP
NOT A STEP CLOS-ER!!
UNLESS YOU WANT ME TO CARVE THE BOY'S NOSE OFF!!
OPEN THE GATE, FATTY!!
SIGGY!!



DON'T TRY TO SCARE US, WENCH!!

DWAH-?!

GRAAH

!
SHUNK
AHA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!
YOU SURE CAN DODGE! WELL DONE, THORFINN!!
STOP, GARM!!
YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO HURT OTHER...
HUP
TOK TOTOTOK
FWIP
FWIM
WHOA!

MY FINISHING MOVE...
BEEHIVE THRUST!!
SHUMP
SHUP
SHUP
SHUP
SHUP

I CAN'T STAY HERE!
MUST GET AWAY...
GARM, THE JOMS-VIKINGS, AND ARCHERS...
THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM!!
TMP
TEP

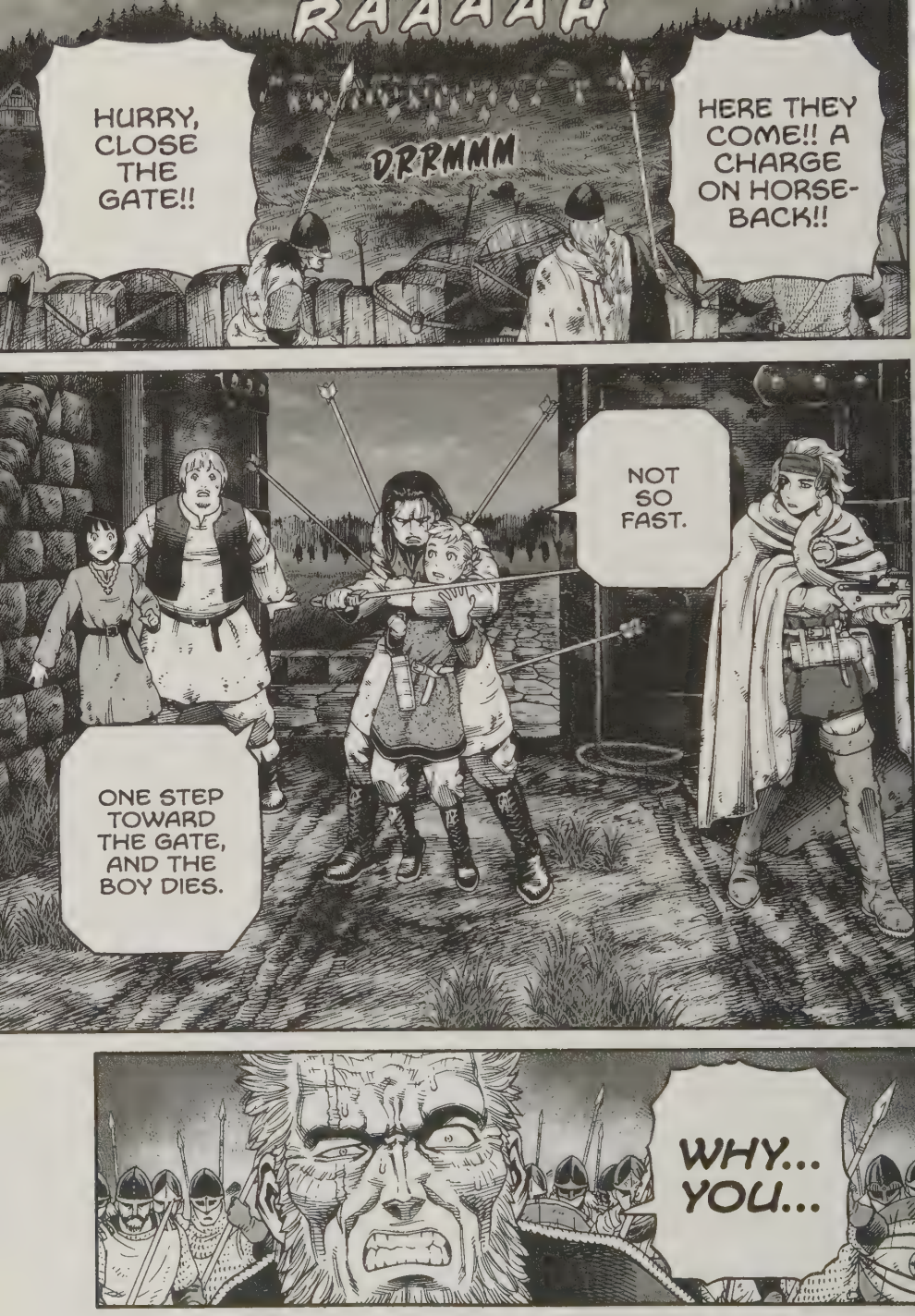
!!
ROLL
V-V WOOSH
GAK
ARGH!
SHUK TUK TUK
TST

HEE-HEE. ♡
FINALLY, WE'RE ALONE. ♡
WHUD
HUP
DAMMIT! NOT YOU AGAIN!!
AHA HA HA!!
I'M GONNA GET YOU!!

RAAAH
GYAAA
AH!
CREAK
NOW, WHERE ARE...
!!
DAMMIT, THOR-FINN!
YOU CAN'T LEAVE WHEN THE PARTY'S STILL RAGING!!

IT'S OPEN!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIGGY?
TAKE GUDRID AND GO FIRST.
I'LL HOLD OUT HERE.

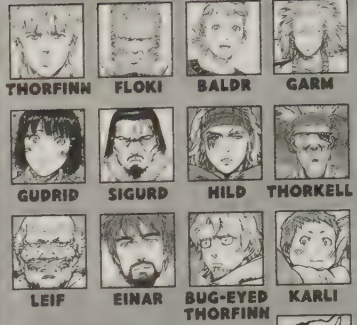
LOOK, ASGEIR!
!
THE GATE'S OPEN- ING!!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT...
GREEENG


RAAAAA
HURRY, CLOSE THE GATE!!
DRRMMM
HERE THEY COME!! A CHARGE ON HORSE-BACK!!
NOT SO FAST.
ONE STEP TOWARD THE GATE, AND THE BOY DIES.
WHY... YOU...

WELL DONE, SPUNKY!! ALL GLORY TO YOU!!
RA
A
A
SUICIDE UNIT, CHARGE!!
TAKE THAT GATE! EVEN IF IT KILLS YOU!!
DA DUM
DA DUM
DA DUM

VINLAND SAGA MAP

THORFINN'S TRAVELS



DOG

JOMSBORG

Base of the Jomsvikings. Floki plots to make his grandson Baldr the next leader of the band. Thorkell joins Floki's rival Vagn's army that surrounds Jomsborg.

Norway

Sweden

Bergen

Shetland

Jelling

Denmark

Jomsborg

North Sea

France

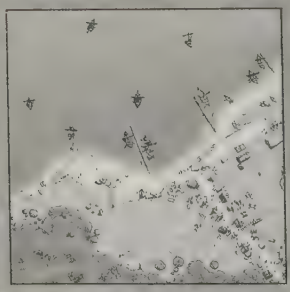
York

England

London

ODENSE

A town on Funen Island. Because Thorfinn could be the rightful leader of the Jomsvikings, Garm captures Leif, Einar, and Gudrid to force Thorfinn into action. Thorfinn takes Bug-Eyes with him to Jomsborg to rescue the rest of their group.



HEY! THOR-FINN!
WHY DON'T YOU STOP RESISTING AND FIGHT ME?!
HU?
DSH!
DSH!
DSH!
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS, RIGHT? YOU SHOULDN'T BE PLAYING TAG!
YOU'D BETTER BEAT ME QUICK, SO YOU CAN GO AND HELP THEM, THORFINN!!
UGH...!!

It's actually not clear exactly where Jomsborg existed. Some people say that the modern-day town of Wolin in Poland marks the location. According to Icelandic records, Jomsborg had a port "big enough to moor 360 ships." Apparently, the Vikings who made this mighty port their base were very stoic and disciplined, and did not allow women into the town. They pursued no agriculture; warfare was their export. It was a professional mercenary group that took part in war for payment. They threw themselves into combat with little thought for death, and never retreated. Hmm! I'm...not so sure about this! Is that not a bit too perfect?! You see, these perfect warriors were the ideal image of the Norsemen at the time—so ideal, in fact, that their existence is doubted by some. It makes you think, ahh, boys will be boys. A mere thousand years isn't going to change the things boys look up to. Everyone wants to be the hero in battle. Anyway...I'm sorry. I'll try to be an adult.

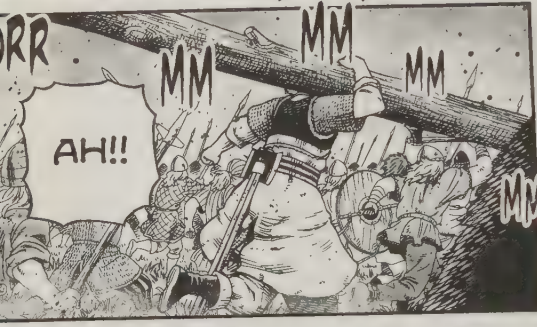
MAKOTO YUKIMURA

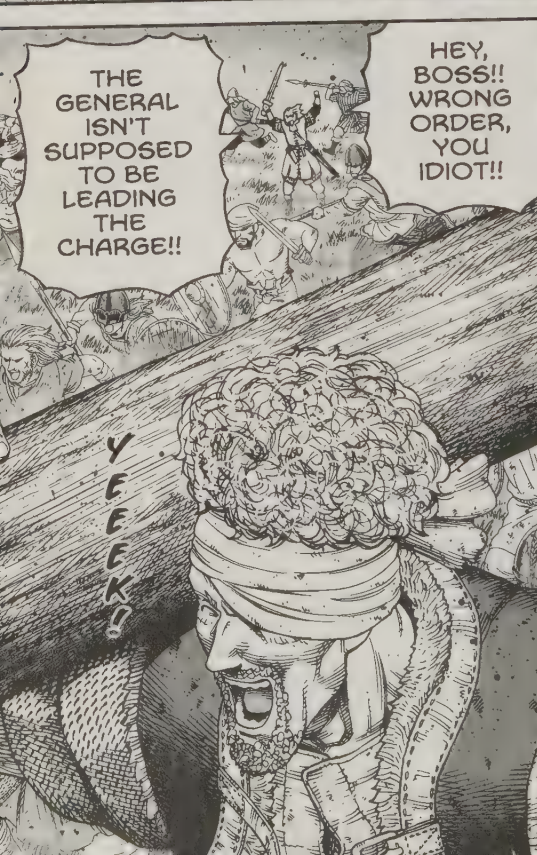
VINLAND
SAGA

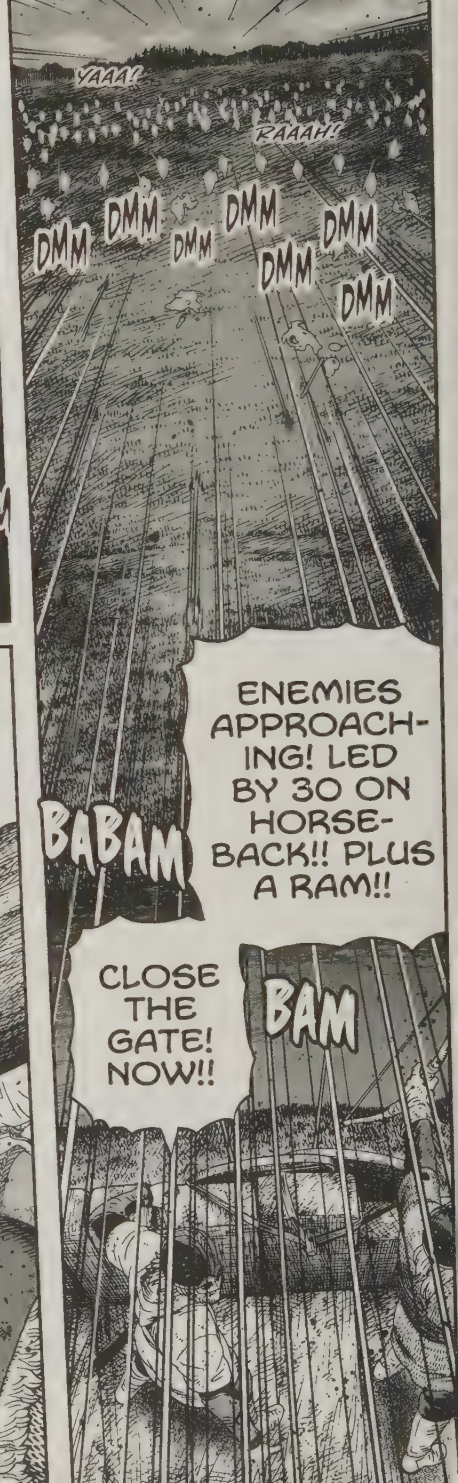
DMM DMM DMM
GO, GO, GO!! CHARGE THAT GATE!!
RA A A A
RUN, RUN, RUN!!
THE SUICIDE UNIT WON'T LAST LONG!! HURRY!!
DMM DMM DMM DMM
LET NO JOMS-VIKING LIVE TO SEE THE SUNRISE!!
WE SETTLE THIS TO-NIGHT!!

CHAPTER 153: WAR IN THE BALTIC (29)

?!
A
AA


ORR
MM
MM
MM
AH!!
MM


THE GENERAL ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LEADING THE CHARGE!!
HEY, BOSS!! WRONG ORDER, YOU IDIOT!!
YEEEK!


YAAA?
RAAAH!!
DMM
DMM
DMM
DMM
DMM
DMM
BABAM
ENEMIES APPROACHING! LED BY 30 ON HORSEBACK!! PLUS A RAM!!
CLOSE THE GATE! NOW!!
BAM

A A A A
EAT THIS!
BAM BABAM
THE HORSES!! BRING DOWN THEIR HORSES!!
SCUM!! DIE, ALL OF YOU!!
BAM BAM
BREE HEE HEEE
DADUM
GRUMM
PUSH!

UGH!! I CAN'T TAKE THIS GUY!! HOW CHILDISH CAN YOU BE?!

THEN I'LL DIE HERE.

ARRGH!

SO I TAKE IT YOU'RE COMING BACK HOME WITH ME?

WHAT?! NO WAY.

I'D RUN AWAY.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "I TAKE IT"?

SAY THAT IT WAS A DEATH WORTHY OF MY GRAND-FATH...

TELL MY FATHER OF HOW I MET MY END.

WHAP

UH-OH, THEY'RE CHARGING OVER HERE!!

RAAAAH

YAAAH!

SIGGY! WE DON'T NEED TO BUY ANY MORE TIME!!

WE'RE IN THE WAY! IT'S DANGEROUS!!

DM DM DM DM DM DM

OUR ALLIES ARE RIGHT OVER THERE!!

IF YOU DIE BECAUSE OF THIS, THINK ABOUT HOW HARD IT'S GOING TO BE FOR ME TO SLEEP!!

WHAT?! WHY, BECAUSE IT'S WAR?! WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT THAT?!

I CANNOT LEAVE THIS SPOT! SOMEONE HAS TO PROTECT THE GATE!!

THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU ALL TO GO AHEAD!!

I'LL GO WITH YOU.
I'LL GO BACK TO ICELAND...
JUST DON'T DIE...
ARE YOU...?

RAAAH!
YAAAAA
DM DM DM DM DM DM

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?
THAT... HURT!

ALL RIGHT.
...

FIWELS
HUP
CHING

GONK

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO KNOCK YOU OUT AND CARRY YOU AWAY...

UMM...

I OUGHT TO KILL YOU!

WHAT WAS THAT FOR, FATTY?!

...THAT... HURT!!

TAKE A HINT!!

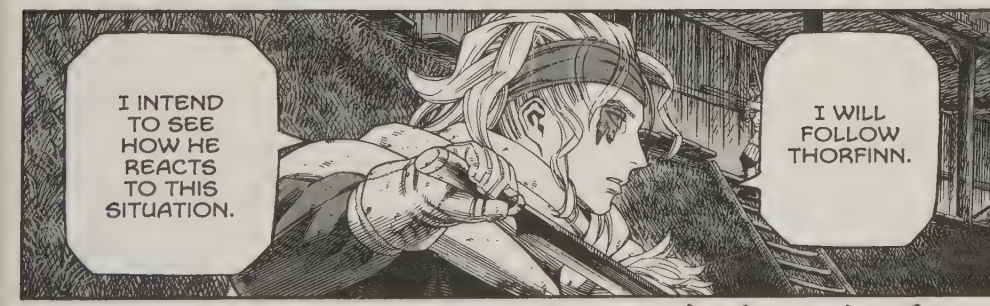
?!

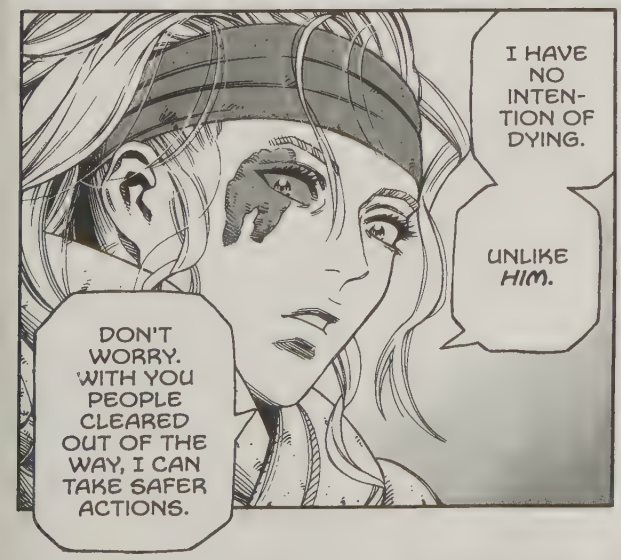
MOVE IT.

I SEE.

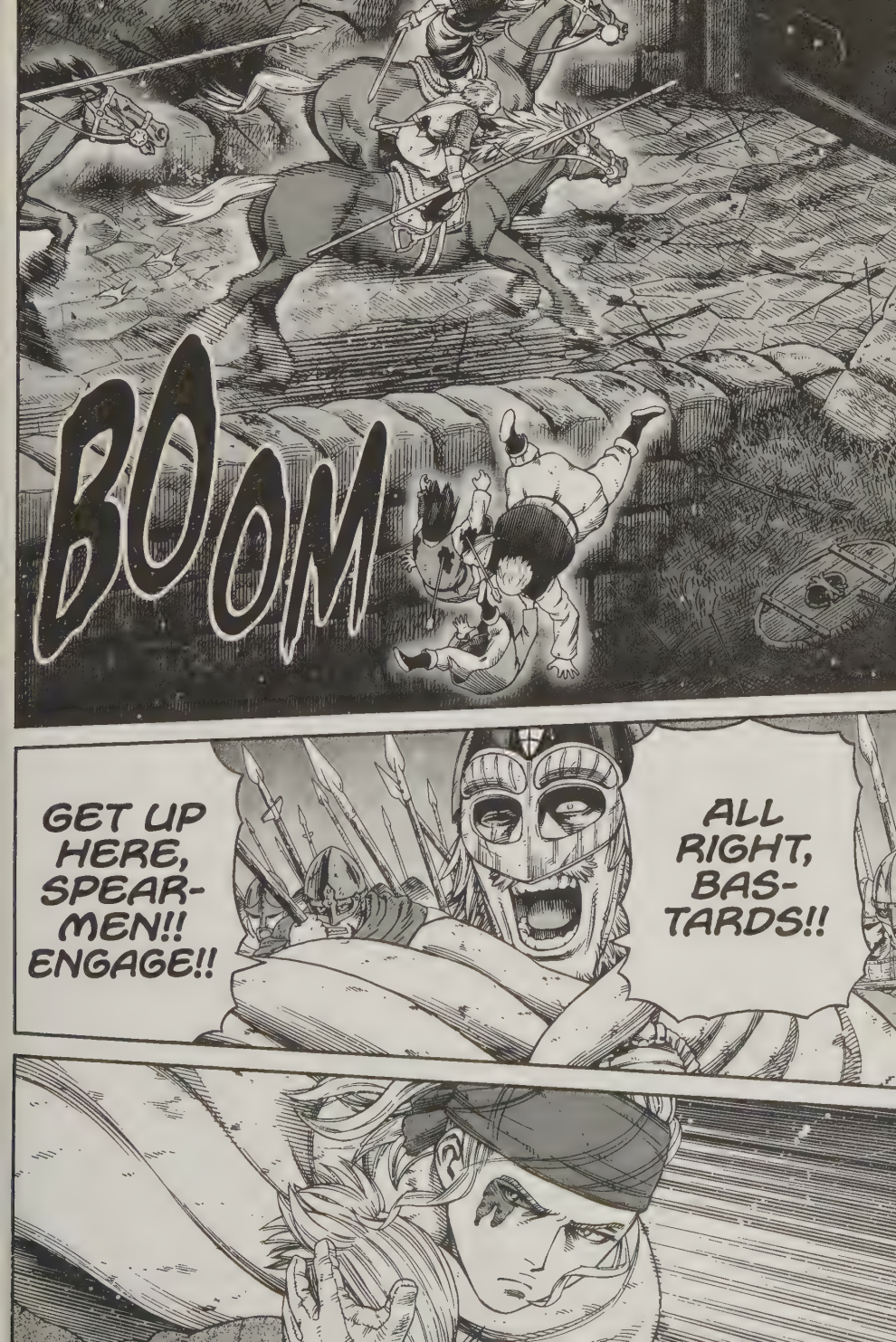
THANKS, WEIRD BOW LADY!!
TAKE CARE!!
HEY! LET GO OF ME!
DUT DUT DUT
TUG
BUT–
?!
DADUM
DADUM
DADUM
DWAAH!!
?!!

WH-WHAT ABOUT YOU, HILD?!
TAKE HIM! THERE'S NO TIME. HURRY!
TWITCH
TWITCH


I INTEND TO SEE HOW HE REACTS TO THIS SITUATION.
I WILL FOLLOW THORFINN.


I HAVE NO INTEN-TION OF DYING.
UNLIKE *HIM*.
DON'T WORRY. WITH YOU PEOPLE CLEARED OUT OF THE WAY, I CAN TAKE SAFER ACTIONS.

THEY'RE GOING TO KILL YOU!!
BUT THAT'S CRAZY!!

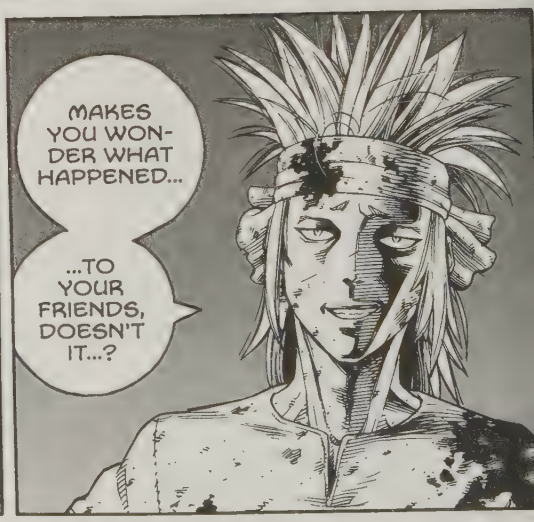

BOOM
GET UP HERE, SPEAR-MEN!! ENGAGE!!
ALL RIGHT, BAS-TARDS!!

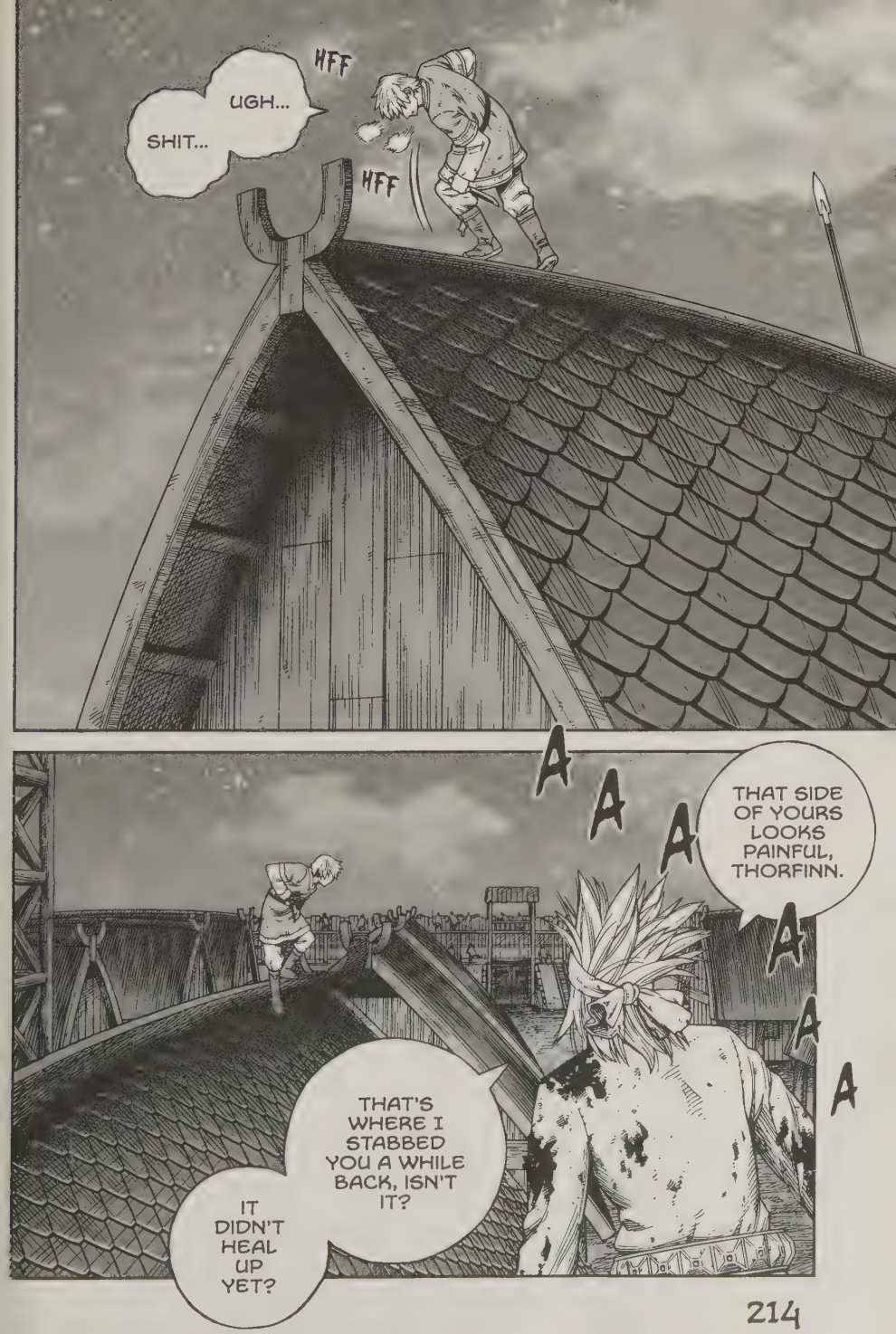
LORD BALDR, ARE YOU HURT?!
WAIT, HILD!!
RAAAH
BALDR!!
HUFF
HUFF

A
A
A
A
A
A
A
A
...BUT THIS IS IT.
I'M SORRY, BALDR...
SHOVE
I'M SORRY WE COULDN'T TAKE YOU WITH US.
THERE! GET THEM!!

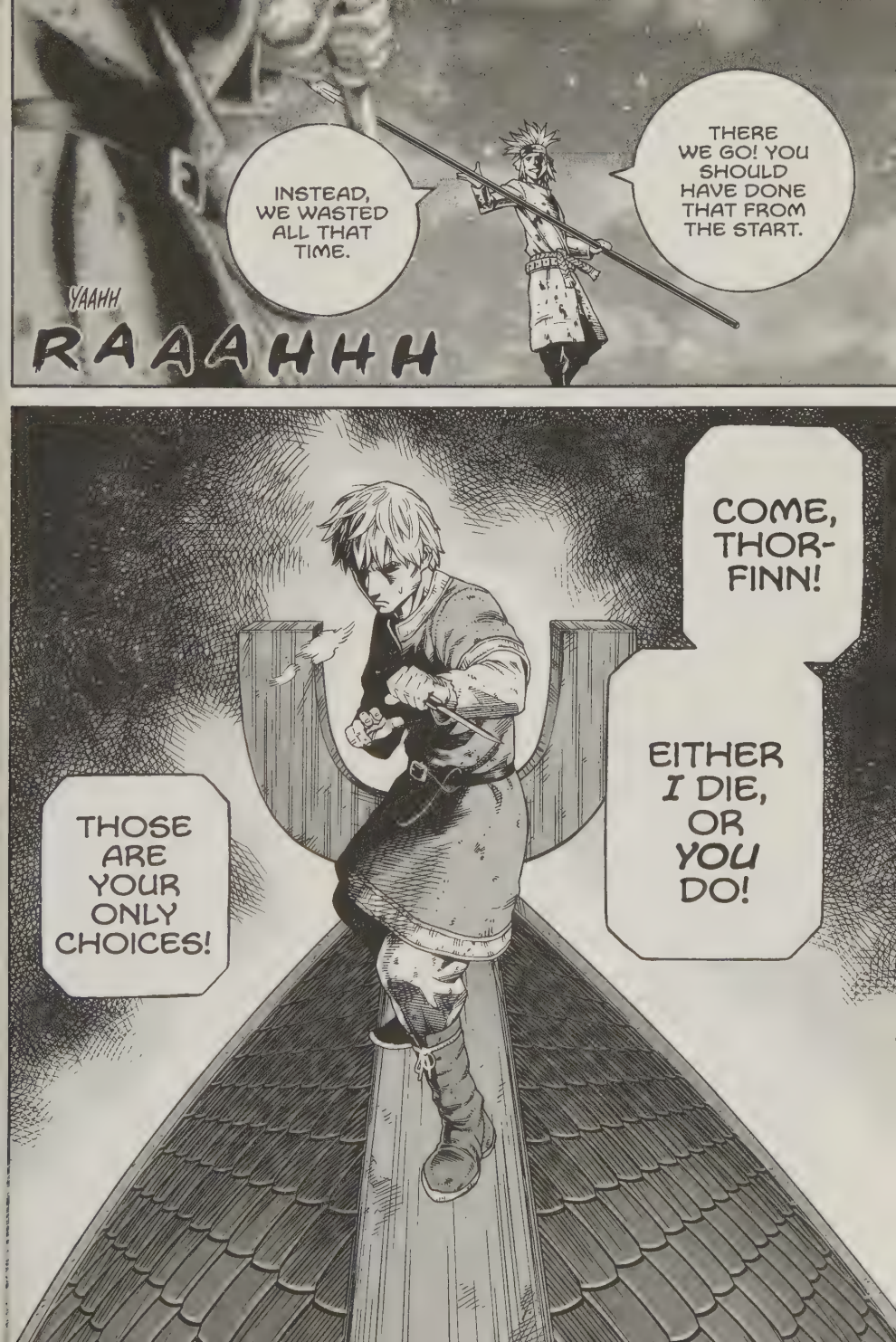
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

RAAAAA
GYAA! YARRGH!
DADUM DADUM
THE SOUND OF BATTLE. THE GATE MUST HAVE FALLEN.
CAN YOU HEAR THAT OVER THERE?



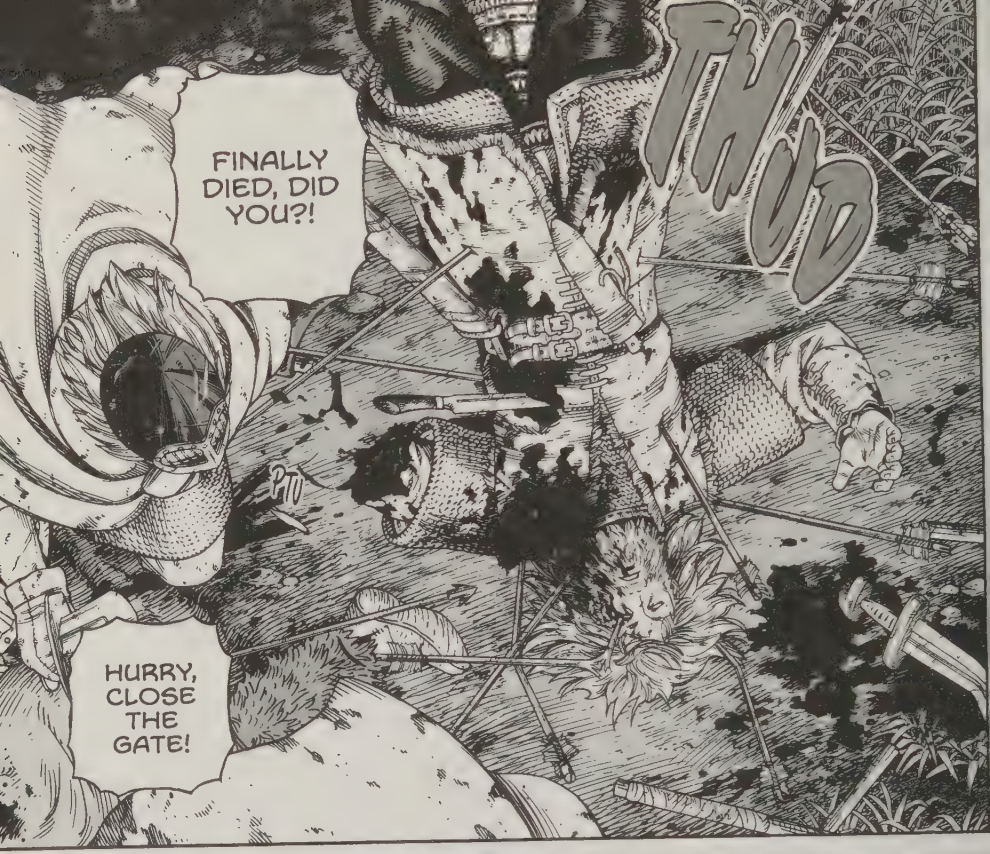

HFF
UGH...
SHIT...
HFF
A A A
THAT SIDE OF YOURS LOOKS PAINFUL, THORFINN.
A A A
THAT'S WHERE I STABBED YOU A WHILE BACK, ISN'T IT?
IT DIDN'T HEAL UP YET?

I'LL GO WITH YOU.
I'LL GO BACK TO ICELAND...
JUST DON'T DIE...

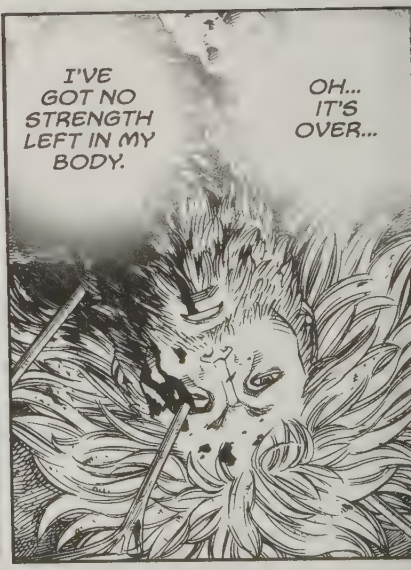

YAAHH
RAAAHHH
INSTEAD, WE WASTED ALL THAT TIME.
THERE WE GO! YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE THAT FROM THE START.
COME, THOR-FINN!
EITHER I DIE, OR YOU DO!
THOSE ARE YOUR ONLY CHOICES!

CHAPTER 154: WAR IN THE BALTIC (30)

RAAAAHH
YAAA!
GYAAA!
DIE!
YAAAAA!


FINALLY DIED, DID YOU?!
THUD
HURRY, CLOSE THE GATE!

I GUESS I'M GOING TO DIE.
GET THESE CORPSES OUT OF THE WAY!!
MOVE IT!
HURRY!
WHERE'S THE BAR?!
RAAAAH


I'VE GOT NO STRENGTH LEFT IN MY BODY.
OH... IT'S OVER...

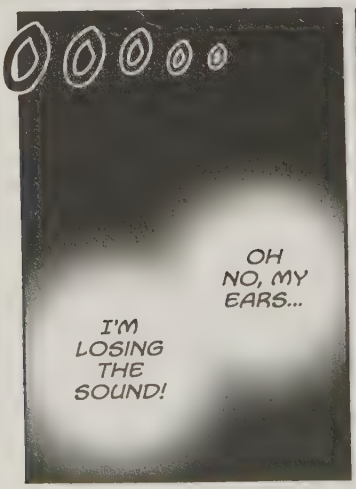
K A A H H
DADUM DADUM
YAAAAAAHHHHH

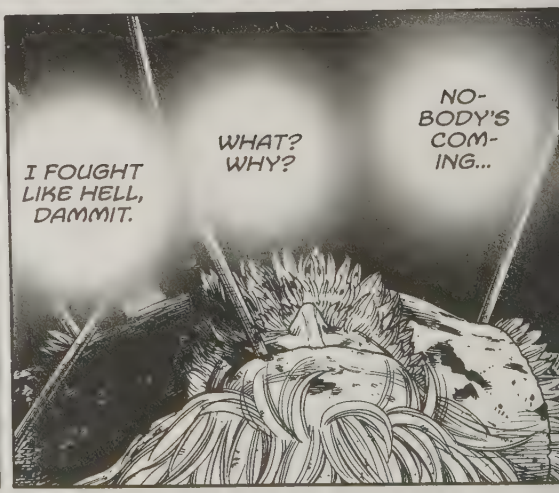
FWOOSH...

HA
HA
HA
HA
WHO
MP

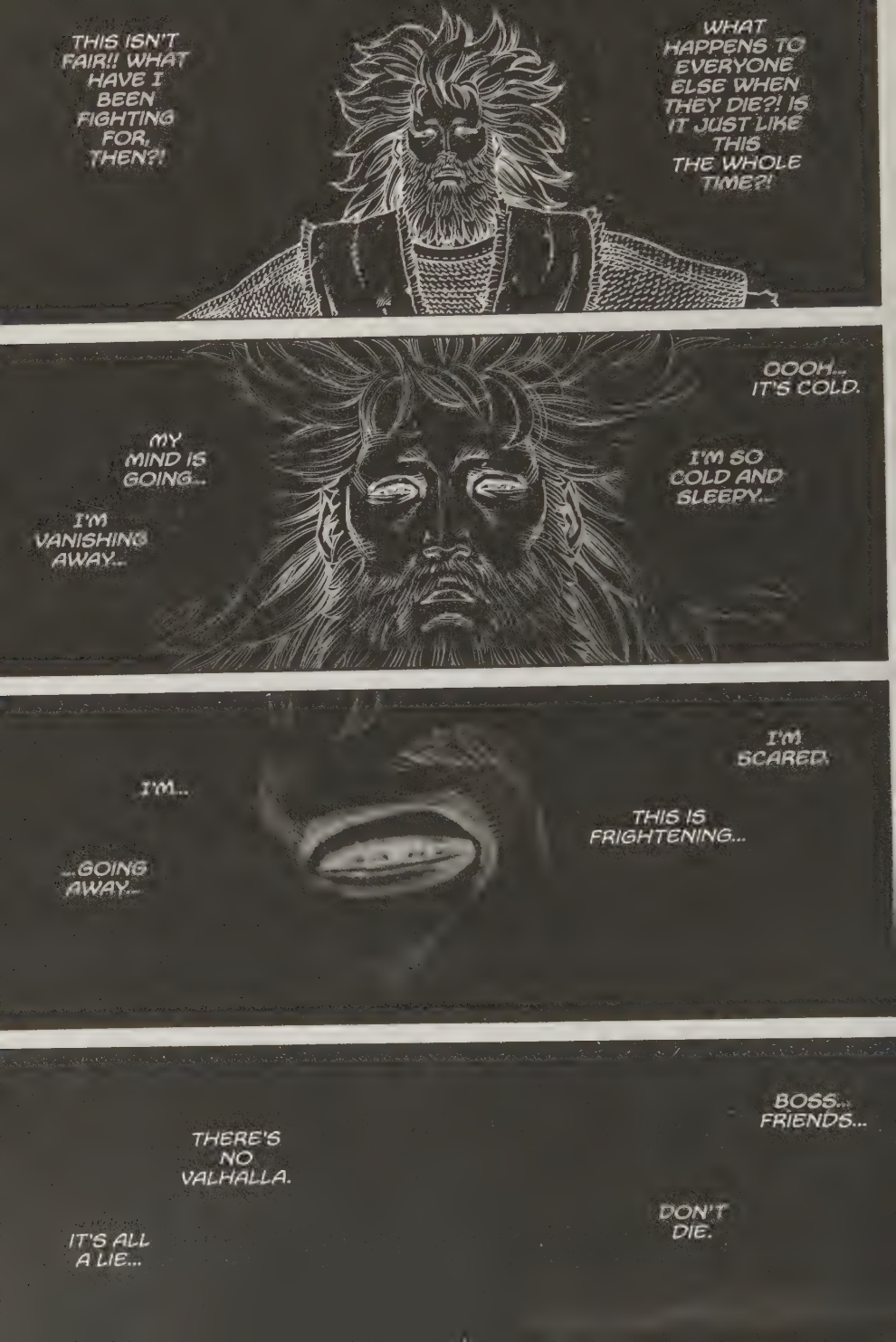
YOU'RE TOO LATE, JOMS-VIKINGS. THE BOSS IS COMING.
I'D HAVE TO SAY I FOUGHT WELL.
BOUGHT US PLENTY OF TIME.
YAAA
HERE WE GO! ONE-MAN-RAM!!
THWAM
GYAA
STOMP STOMP STOMP
THERE HE IS.

AAAAAA
RAAH
GYAA
...HUH?


OH NO, MY EARS...
I'M LOSING THE SOUND!


I FOUGHT LIKE HELL, DAMMIT.
WHAT? WHY?
NO-BODY'S COM-ING...

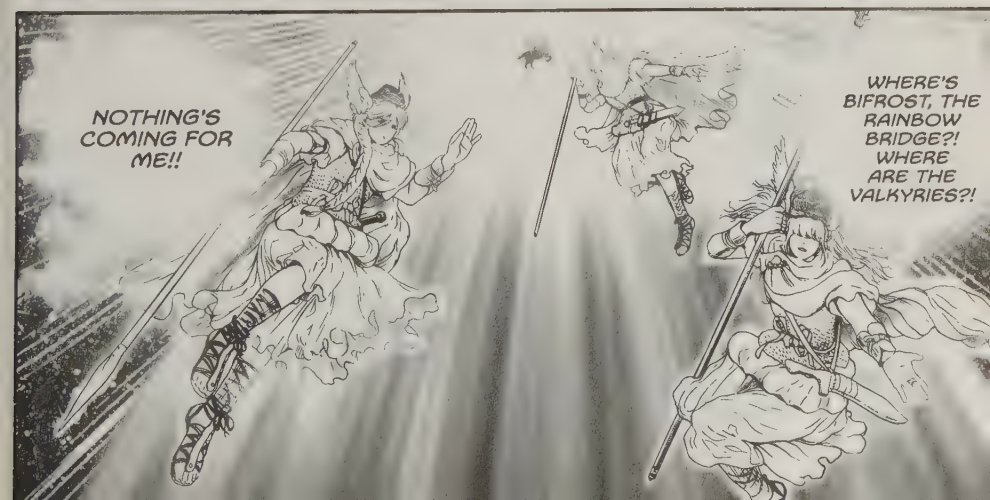
GYAAA!
YAARGH!
HE'S JUST SOMETHING ELSE, ISN'T HE?
OH, MAN...
AH...
MY EYES...
...TO USHER ME OFF TO VALHALLA...
HERE COMES MY VALKYRIE...


THIS ISN'T FAIR!! WHAT HAVE I BEEN FIGHTING FOR, THEN?!
WHAT HAPPENS TO EVERYONE ELSE WHEN THEY DIE?! IS IT JUST LIKE THIS THE WHOLE TIME?!
OOOH... IT'S COLD.
MY MIND IS GOING...
I'M SO COLD AND SLEEPY...
I'M VANISHING AWAY...
I'M SCARED.
I'M...
THIS IS FRIGHTENING...
...GOING AWAY...
BOSS... FRIENDS...
THERE'S NO VALHALLA.
DON'T DIE.
IT'S ALL A LIE...

HEY!! THIS ISN'T WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN!!

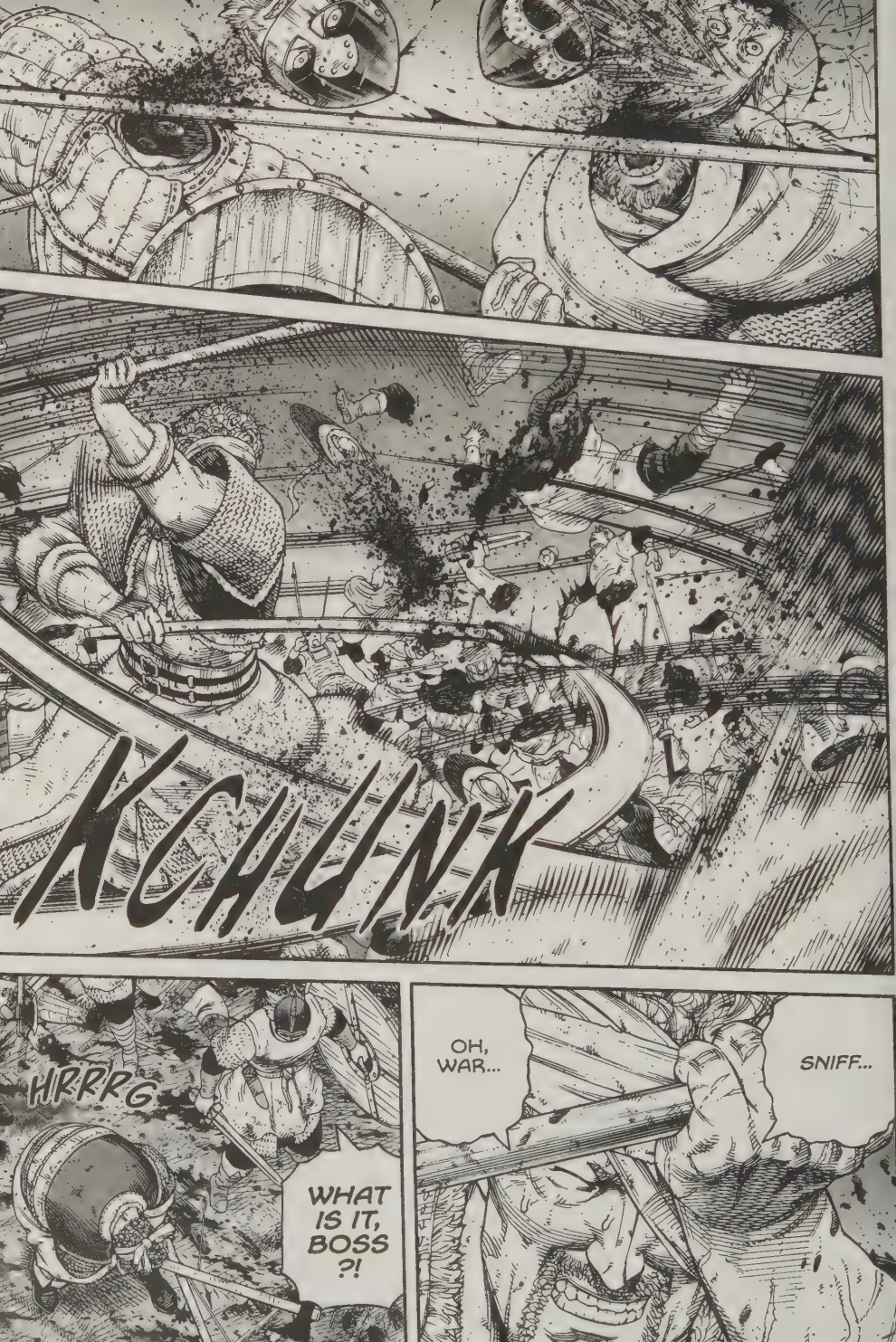
I CAN'T MOVE!! I FEEL NOTHING!! NOT EVEN PAIN!!

I CAN'T SEE!! I CAN'T HEAR!!



WHOOSH
AAAAAAH
KRAKAM
AAGH!
AIEE!
EEEP!

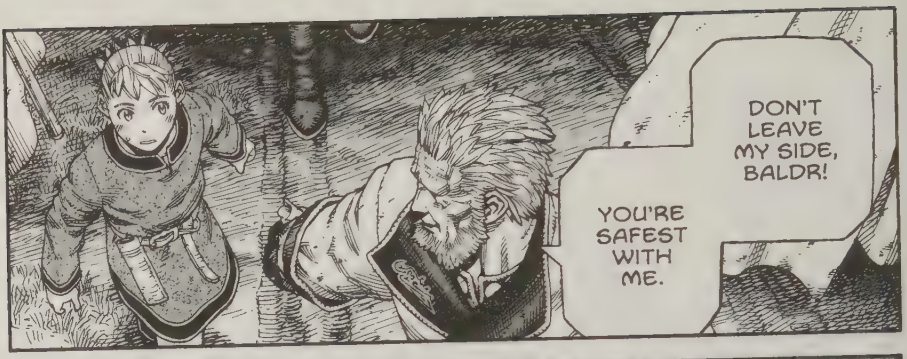
Y
AA
AAA
H

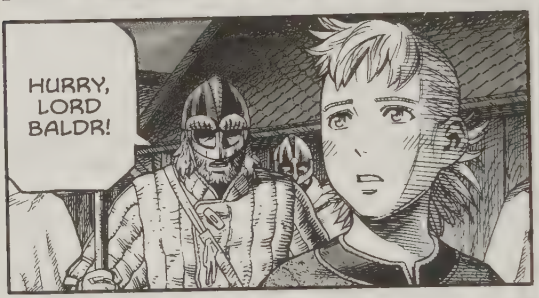

KCHUNK
HRRRG
WHAT IS IT, BOSS ?!
OH, WAR...
SNIFF...

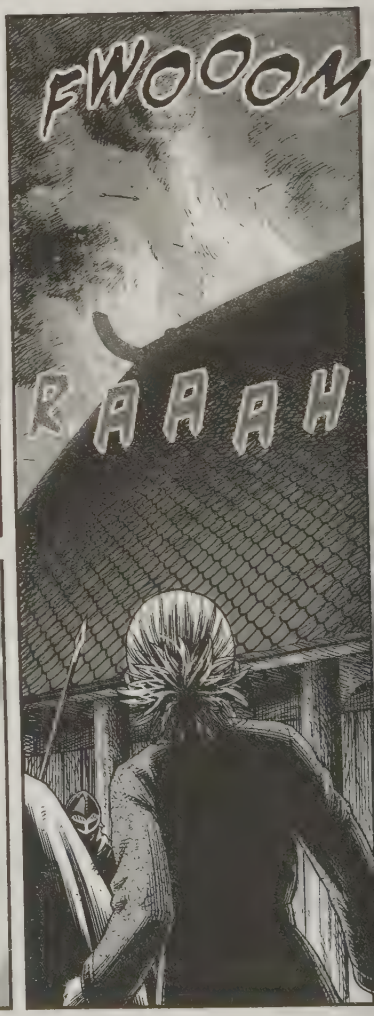
ZMF...
...WAR...
YAAAA
IF WE KILL THORKELL, WE'RE THE GREATEST WARRIORS LEFT IN THE WORLD!!
DON'T BACK DOWN!! KILL THEM ALL!!

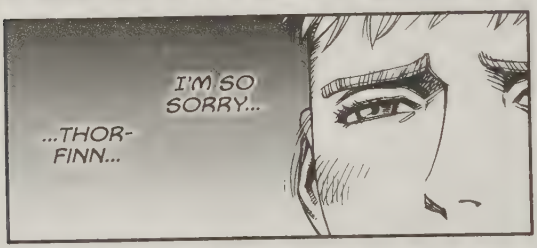
I LOVE YOUUU-UUUU! !!!!!

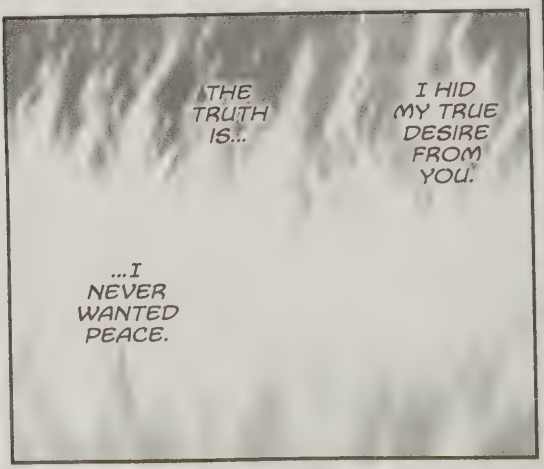
CHAPTER 155: WAR IN THE BALTIC (31)


DON'T LEAVE MY SIDE, BALDR!
YOU'RE SAFEST WITH ME.


HURRY, LORD BALDR!


FWOOOM
BAAAH


I'M SO SORRY...
...THOR-FINN...


THE TRUTH IS...
I HID MY TRUE DESIRE FROM YOU.
...I NEVER WANTED PEACE.

KABOOM

YAAAAH

VAGN'S FORCES ARE ATTACKING AT THE WESTERN GATE!!

CHIEFTAIN, THERE'S A FIRE IN THE SOUTHWEST SECTOR!

HAVE THE SLAVES PUT IT OUT!!

LET THEM SPILL INTO THE FORTRESS AND SURROUND THEM!!

CHIEFTAIN, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MEN DEFENDING THE WALL!

THE EASTERN GATE, CHIEF!

QUELL THEM WITH YNGVAR'S GROUP! WE CANNOT DIVERT FORCES FROM THORKELL HERE!!

ANY MAN WHO DIES FOR THE SAKE OF JOMSBORG WILL EARN HIS SEAT IN VALHALLA!! DON'T CLING TO YOUR LIVES!!

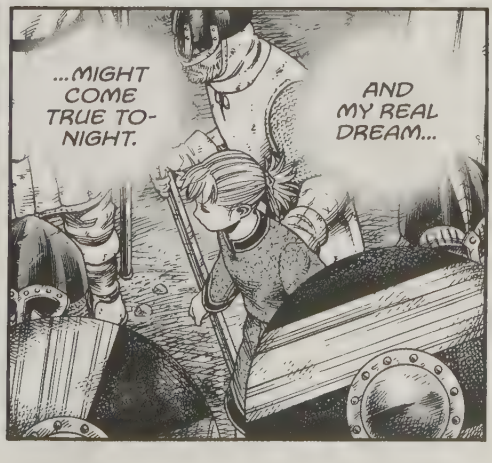
FIGHT!! FIGHT TO THE DEATH!!

VWA
BOOM
O
O
O
O
H

IT'S ALL I'VE EVER TRULY WANTED...

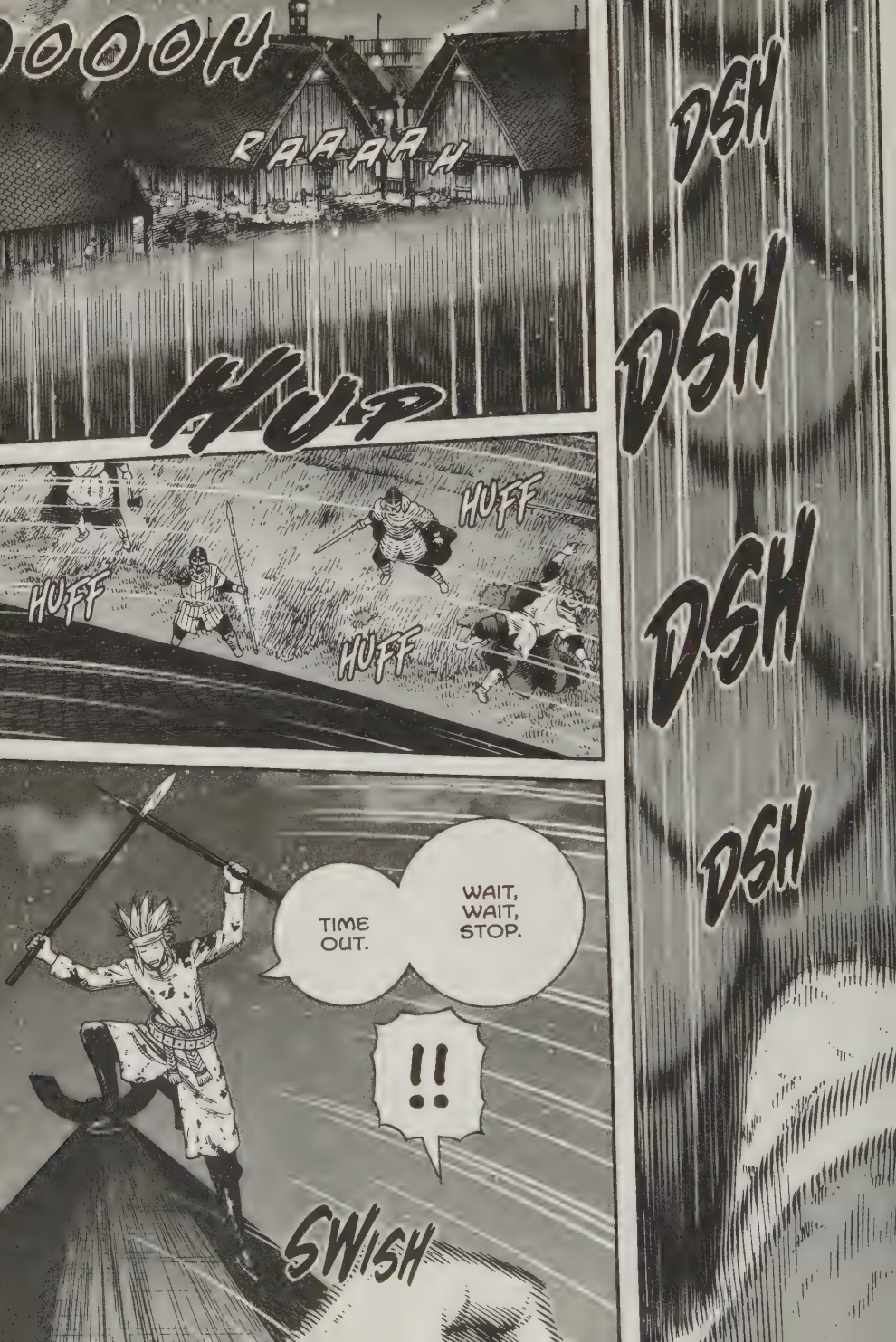
I WANT THIS BAND TO BURN TO ASHES.

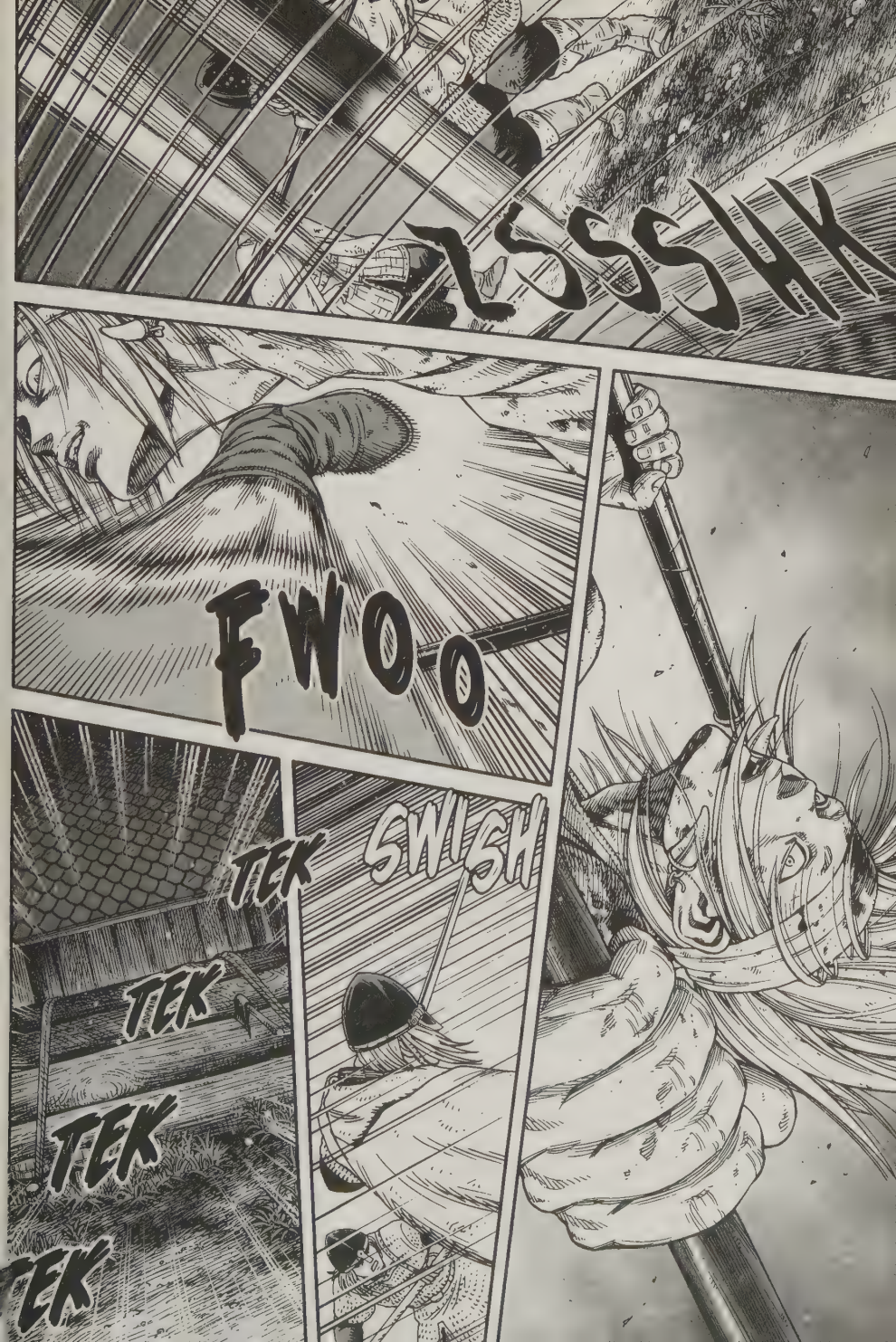
I WANT EVERYONE TO DIE.



GA
GA
GAK
WHUP
EMP

GRRK
VWUSH
VSH


OOOOH
RAAAAH
HUP
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
DSH
DSH
DSH
DSH
TIME OUT.
WAIT, WAIT, STOP.
!!
SWISH


SSSHK
FWO-O
SWISH
TEK
TEK
TEK
TEK

ARE YOU EVEN *TRYING* TO KILL ME? TRY HARDER!

IT'S REALLY INCONSIDERATE THAT YOU WON'T EVEN TRY.

YOU'RE NOT COMING AFTER ME! ALL YOU'RE DOING IS STOPPING MY SPEAR WITH YOUR KNIFE.

RAAAAH

OOOOH

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, YOU BETTER ACT LIKE IT.

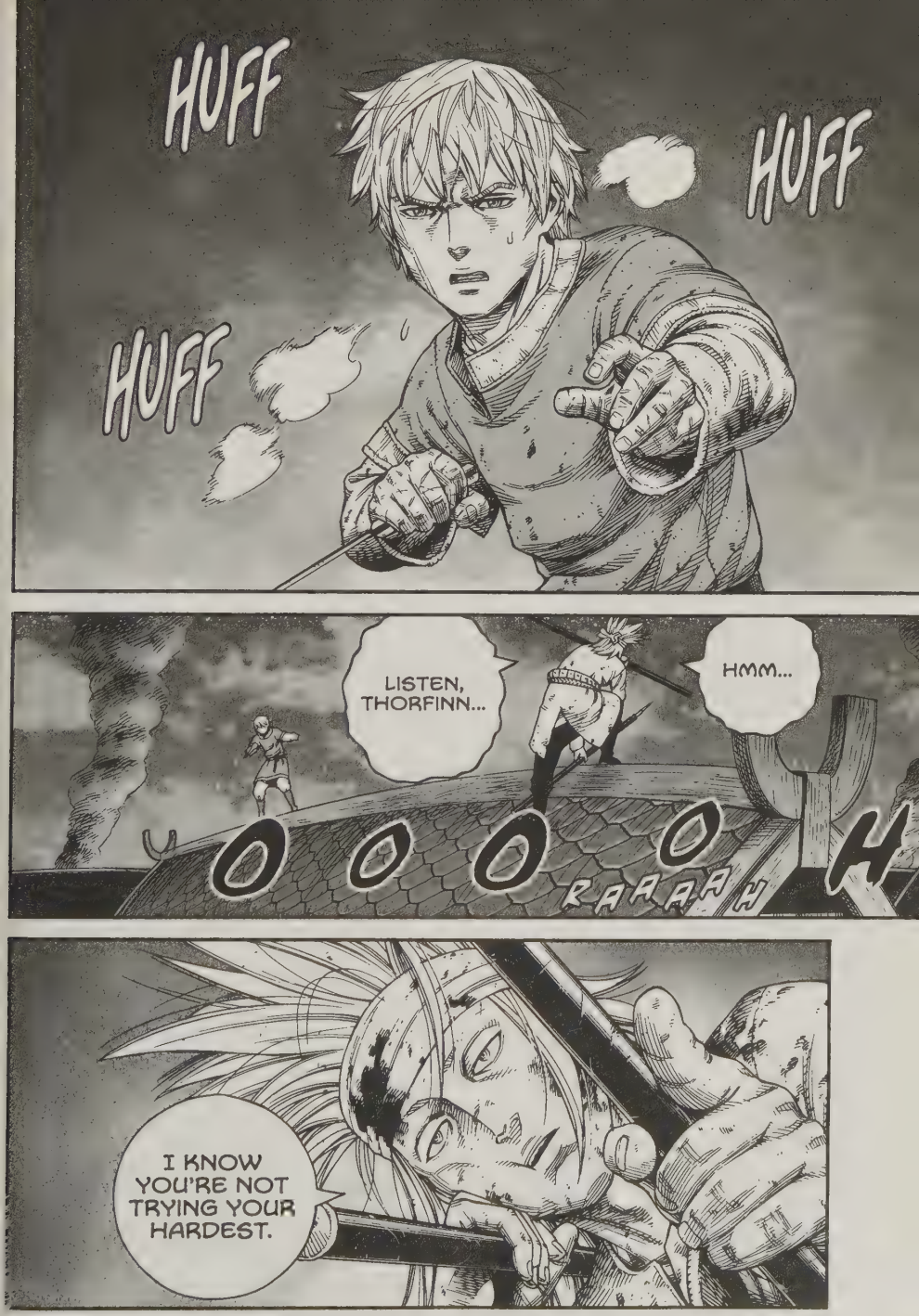
DON'T YOU GET IT?

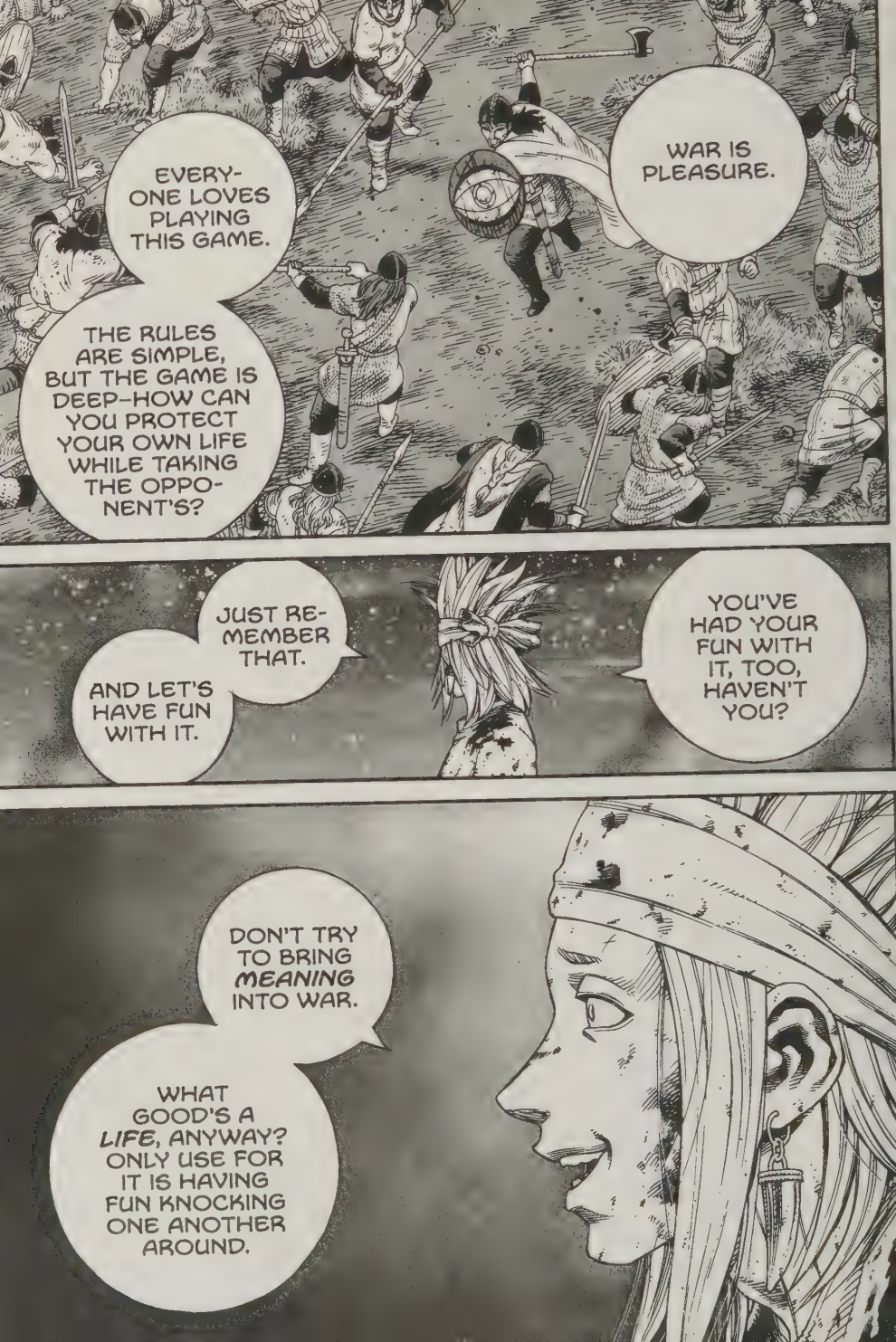
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU TODAY.

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT...?

...I TOLD YOU...

I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU AT ALL...


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
LISTEN, THORFINN...
HMM...
OOOO
RAAAAH
H
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT TRYING YOUR HARDEST.


EVERY-ONE LOVES PLAYING THIS GAME.
WAR IS PLEASURE.
THE RULES ARE SIMPLE, BUT THE GAME IS DEEP–HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR OWN LIFE WHILE TAKING THE OPPO-NENT'S?
JUST RE-MEMBER THAT.
AND LET'S HAVE FUN WITH IT.
YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN WITH IT, TOO, HAVEN'T YOU?
DON'T TRY TO BRING *MEANING* INTO WAR.
WHAT GOOD'S A *LIFE*, ANYWAY? ONLY USE FOR IT IS HAVING FUN KNOCKING ONE ANOTHER AROUND.

YOUR MIND IS BROKEN, GARM...

...FOR YOU AND ME TO FIGHT.

IT'S ABSOLUTELY POINTLESS...

JUST LOOK AT THEM!

WE FIGHT BECAUSE IT'S FUN!

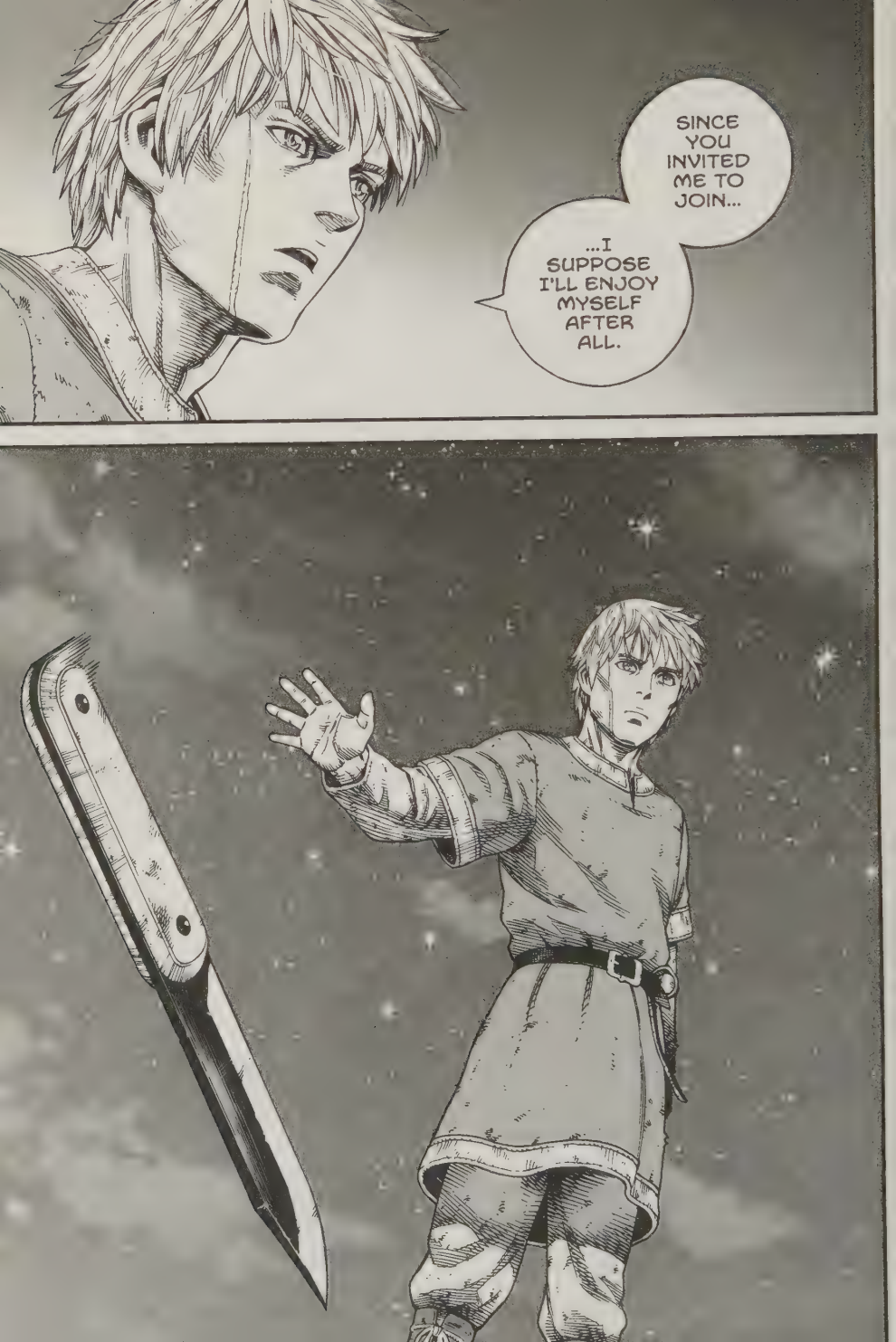
AND WHO SAYS YOU NEED TO HAVE A POINT TO FIGHT?!

Y A A A A A A

THERE'S NO MEANING IN THEIR LIFE OR DEATH.

THEY'RE JUST ENJOYING THE SPECTACLE OF VIOLENCE.

THEY'RE HAVING THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES!

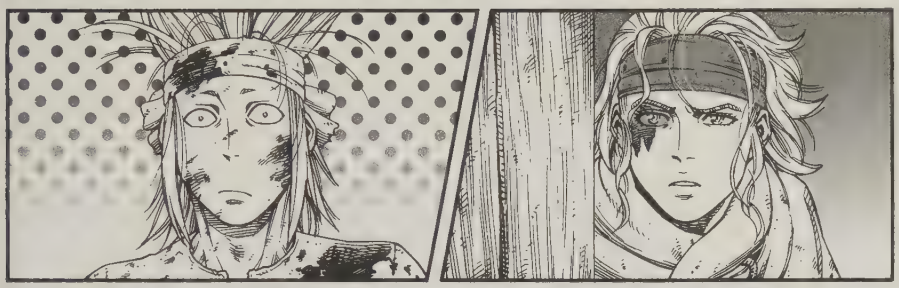

SINCE YOU INVITED ME TO JOIN...
...I SUPPOSE I'LL ENJOY MYSELF AFTER ALL.

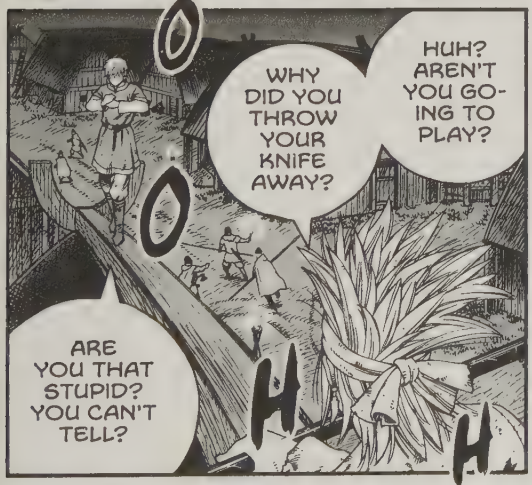
THERE THEY ARE...
BOTH ALIVE, IT APPEARS.
A GAME WHERE LIVES ARE THE PIECES...
...I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.
THIS IS A GAME.
OOOHH

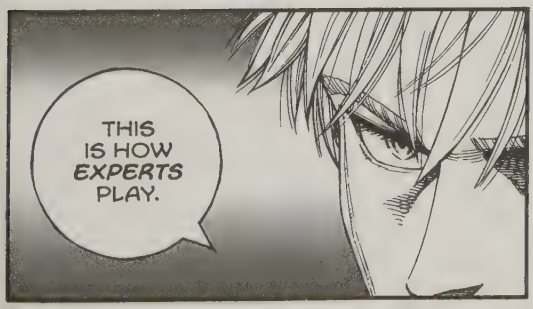
I WILL PROTECT MY OWN LIFE...

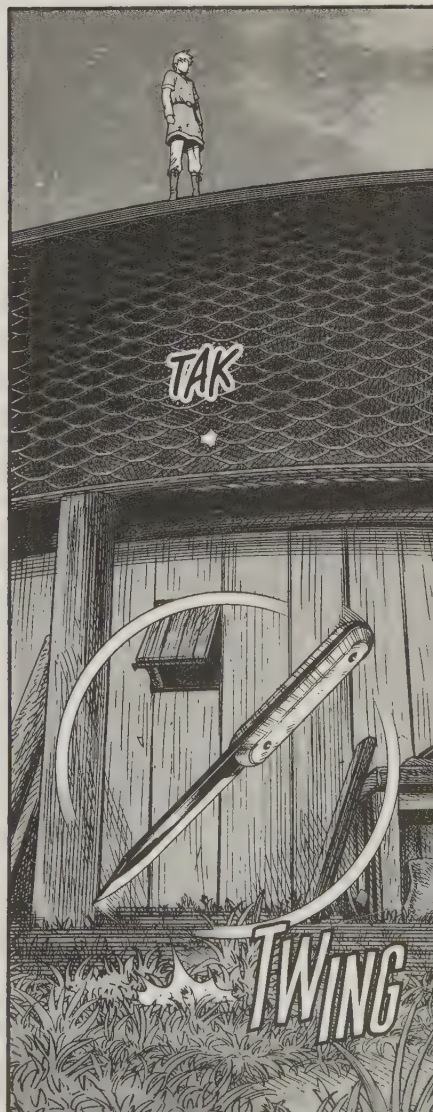
...NOT TAKE MY OPPO-NENT'S...

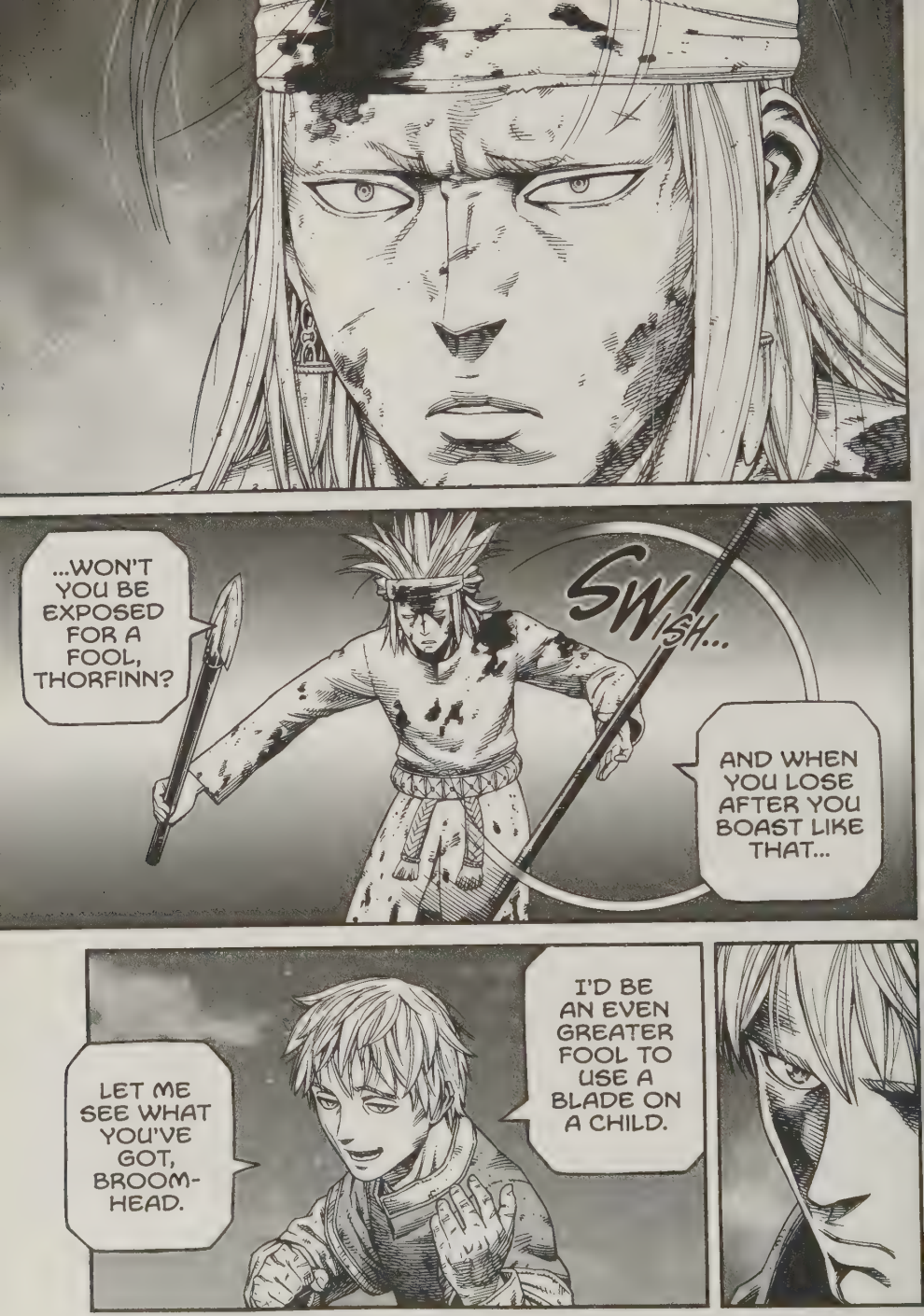
...AND *STILL* WIN!!



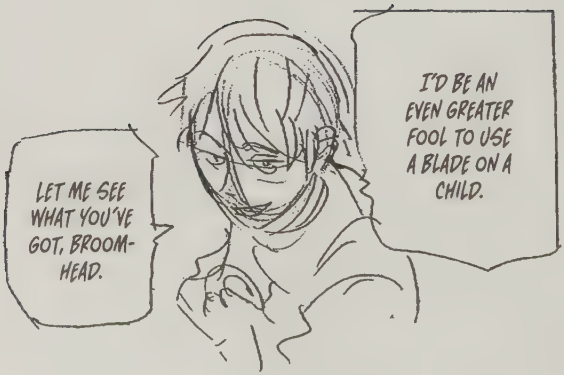

HUH? AREN'T YOU GOING TO PLAY?
WHY DID YOU THROW YOUR KNIFE AWAY?
ARE YOU THAT STUPID? YOU CAN'T TELL?
H
H


THIS IS HOW *EXPERTS* PLAY.


TAK
TWING

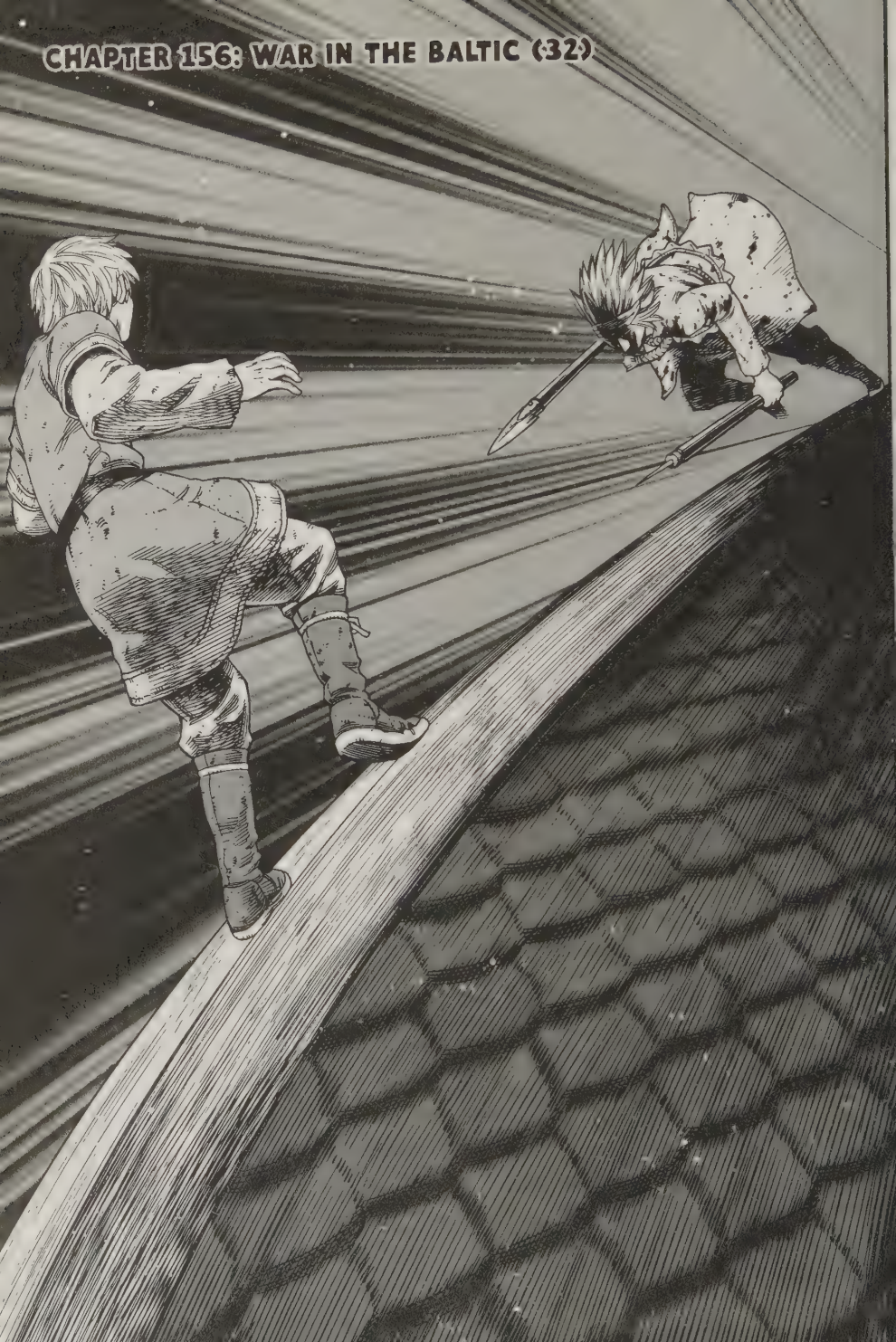

...WON'T YOU BE EXPOSED FOR A FOOL, THORFINN?
SWISH...
AND WHEN YOU LOSE AFTER YOU BOAST LIKE THAT...
LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT, BROOM-HEAD.
I'D BE AN EVEN GREATER FOOL TO USE A BLADE ON A CHILD.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! HEY, WHAT'S THIS GUY SAYING?!
YOU CAN'T JUST CHANGE THE RULES ON ME!! IT'S NOT FAIR IF YOU DON'T TRY YOUR HARDEST TO KILL ME!!
YOU DON'T GET TO GIVE ME THAT LIP. NOT UNTIL YOU REALLY MAKE ME THINK, "IT'S EITHER HIM OR ME."
SHUT UP, LOSER. YOU SHOULD BE HONORED THAT THORFINN KARLSEFNI EVEN DECIDED TO GIVE YOU HIS TIME.
THAT'S WHAT EXPOSES YOU FOR THE CHILD YOU ARE.
DON'T GO THINKING YOU KNOW EVERYTHING, JUST BECAUSE YOU KNOW A *FEW* THINGS, GARM.

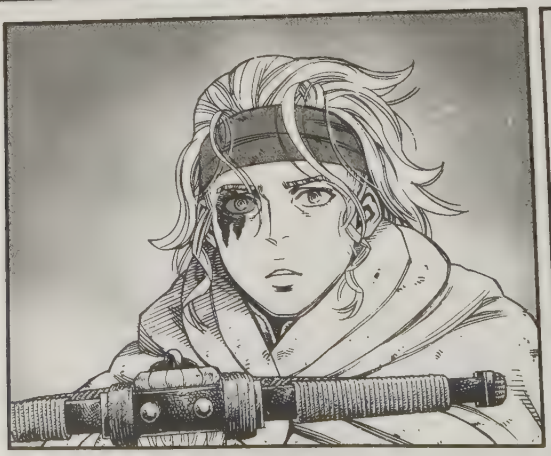

LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT, BROOM-HEAD.
I'D BE AN EVEN GREATER FOOL TO USE A BLADE ON A CHILD.

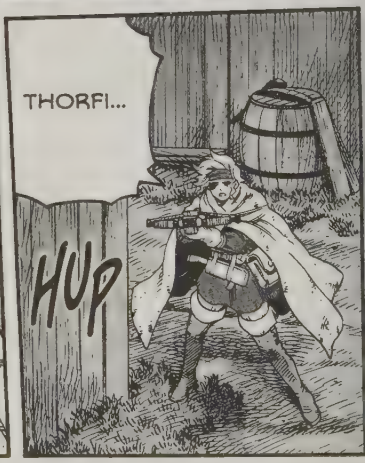
BOOM

CHAPTER 156: WAR IN THE BALTIC (32)



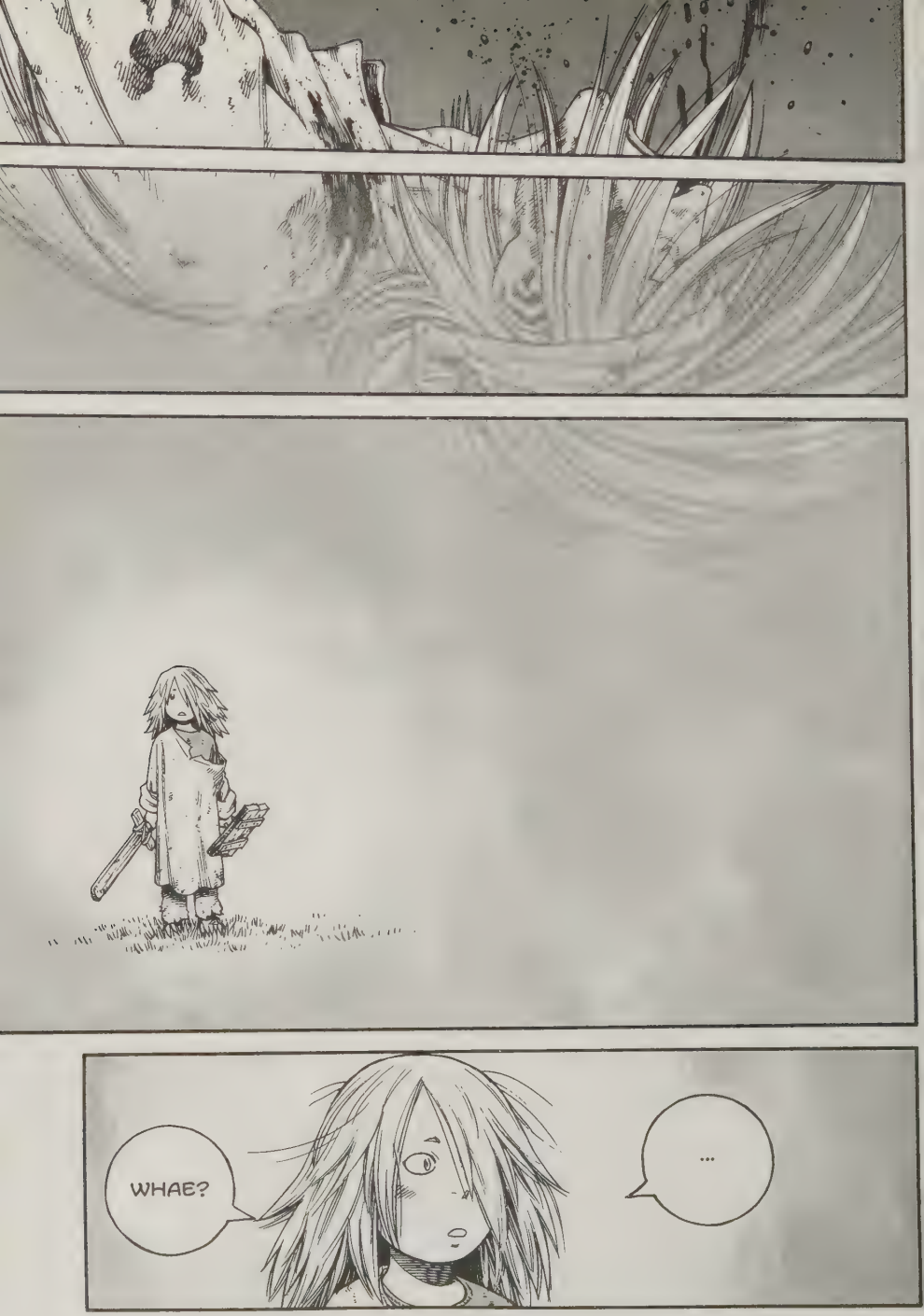
THUD



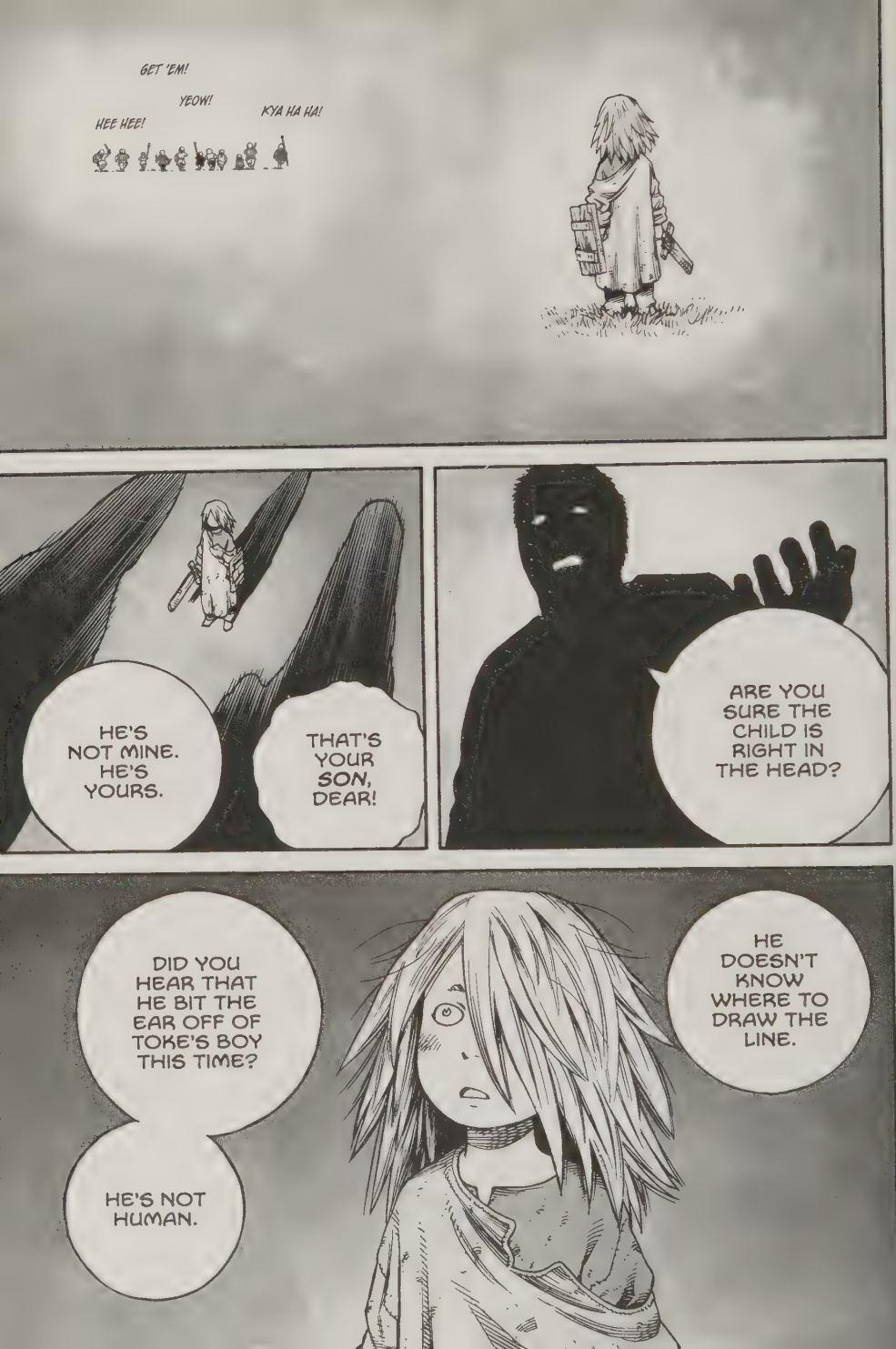


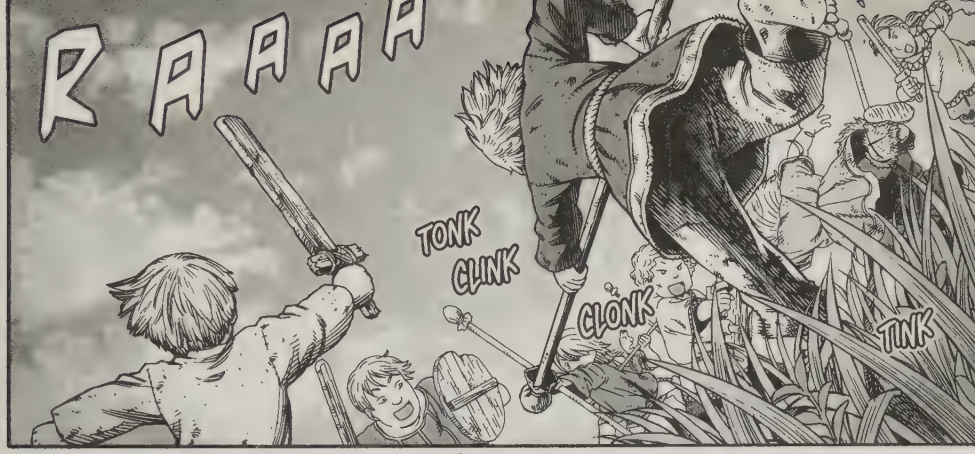
SHIT!
WHAT A HORRID THOUGHT.
THE THINGS THAT MAN TAUGHT ME...
GAK
WHUM
...ARE WHAT KEPT ME ALIVE.

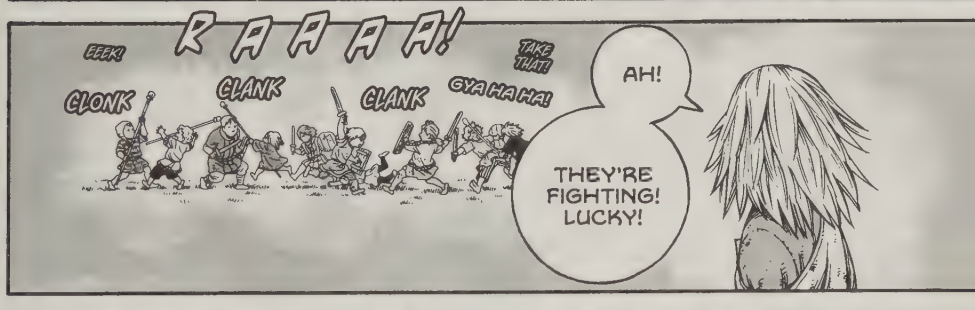
HRNG
AHH, I SEE...
RRRG...

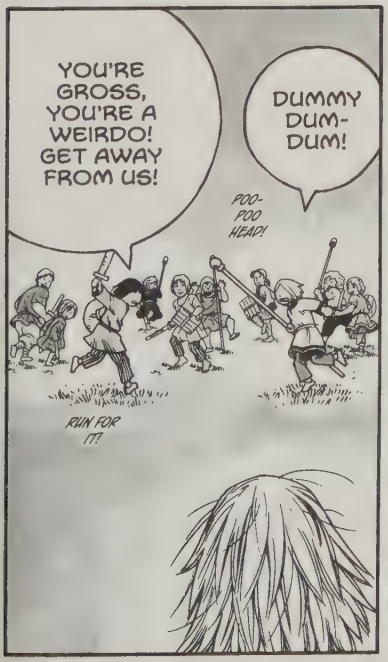

WHAE?
...

CRUNCH


GET 'EM!
YEOW!
KYA HA HA!
HEE HEE!
HE'S NOT MINE. HE'S YOURS.
THAT'S YOUR SON, DEAR!
ARE YOU SURE THE CHILD IS RIGHT IN THE HEAD?
DID YOU HEAR THAT HE BIT THE EAR OFF OF TOKE'S BOY THIS TIME?
HE'S NOT HUMAN.
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE.

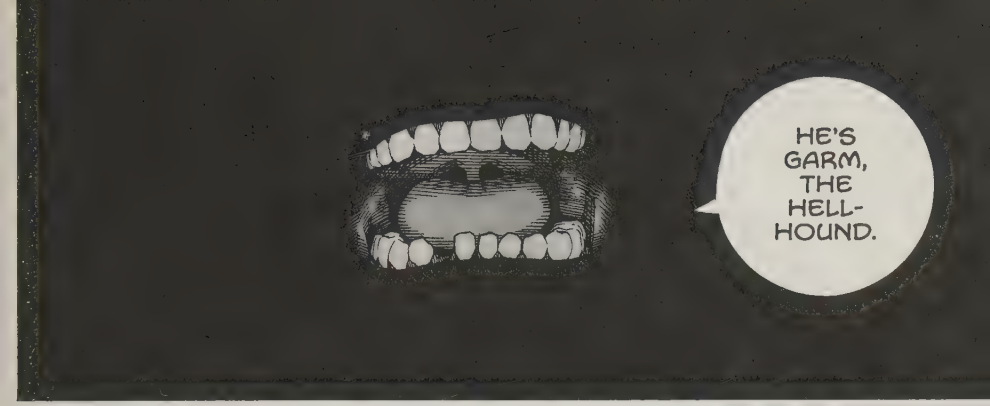

KAAAA
TONK
CLINK
CLONK
TINK

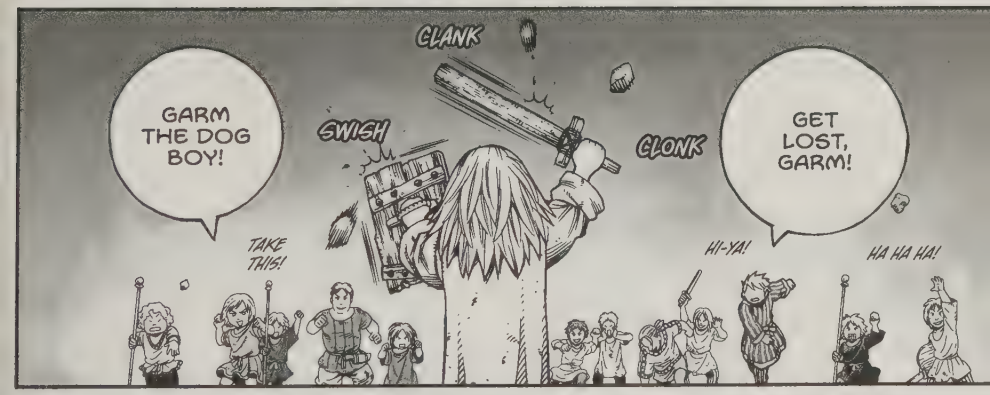

EEEK!
KAAAA!
TAKE THAT!
CLONK
CLANK
CLANK
GYA HA HA!
AH!
THEY'RE FIGHTING! LUCKY!


YOU'RE GROSS, YOU'RE A WEIRDO! GET AWAY FROM US!
DUMMY DUM-DUM!
POO-POO HEAD!
RUN FOR IT!

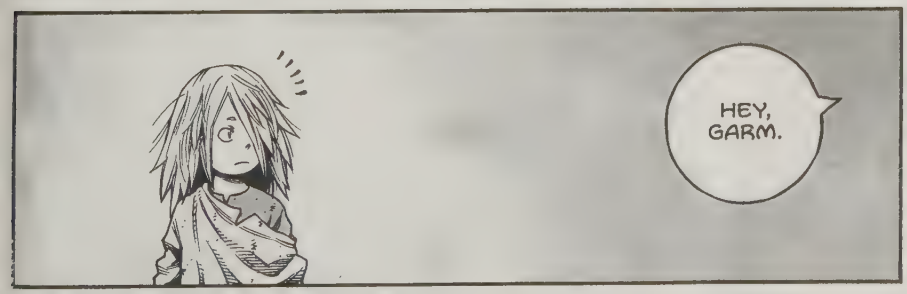
LET ME FIGHT, TOO!!
AH!
HERE COMES THE DUMMY!

YOU WANNA PLAY GAMES? HUH?
WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR A NEW PLAYER.
HEH HEH...


HE'S GARM, THE HELL-HOUND.


GARM THE DOG BOY!
CLANK
SWISH
CLONK
GET LOST, GARM!
TAKE THIS!
HI-YA!
HA HA HA!

KYA HA HA HA!
LOSER!
C'MON, LET'S GO.
LITTLE CREEP!


HEY, GARM.

HE MUSTN'T BE RAISED IN OUR MIDST.

MAN-EATER...

TERRIFY-ING BEAST...

I ALWAYS KNEW HE WOULD DO IT.

UH...

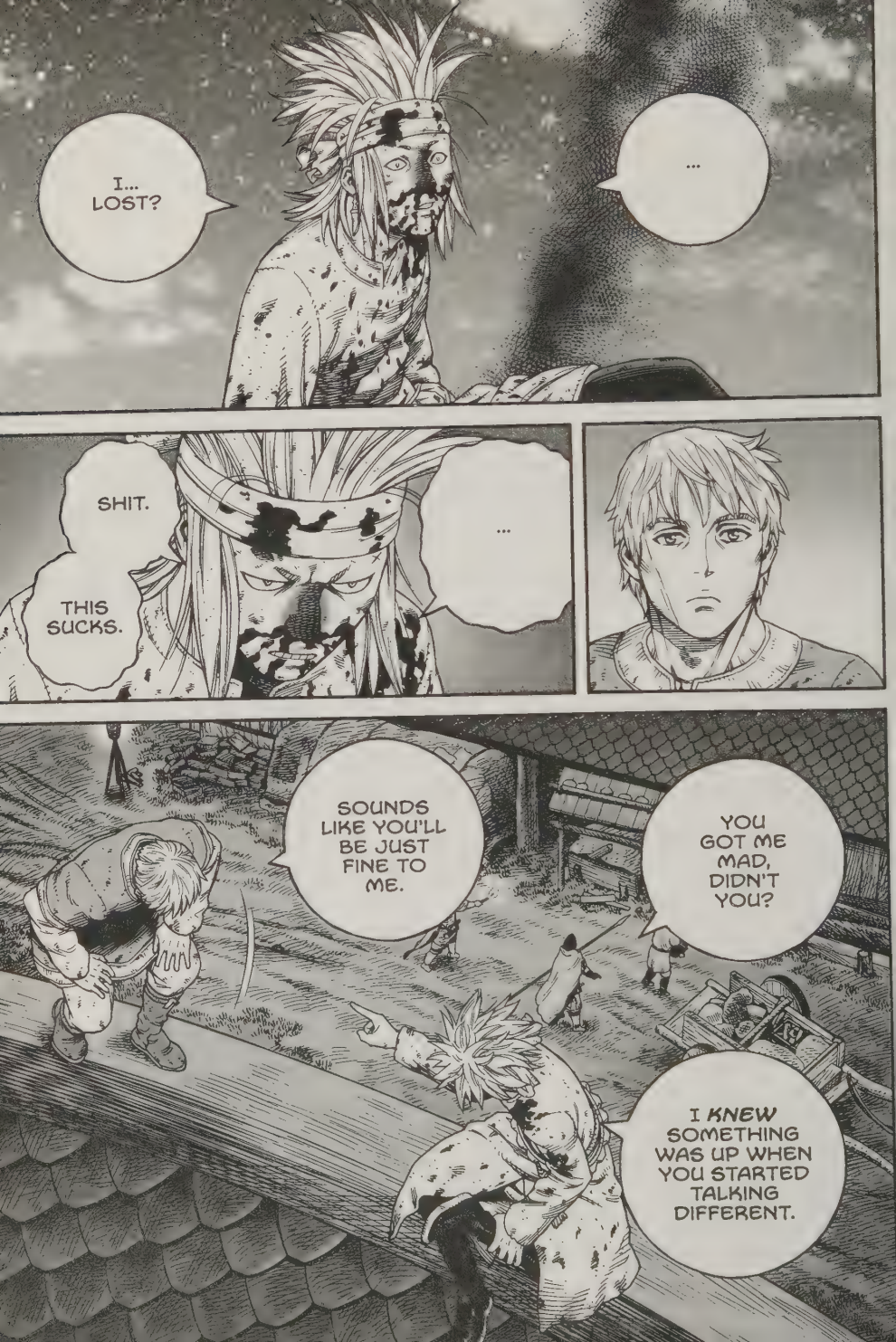
UHHH.

UH...

GARM KILLED HIM!! AAAAH!!
Y-Y-YOU... YOU KILLED HIM!!
HUFF
HUFF
PHEW
YAY! I WON!!

CRUNCH
LITTLE DEMON!!
AHA HA HA HA HA HA HA!!
AHA HA HA!! AHA HA! AHA HA HA!!

GRAB
SHUNK
URGL!!
BOIIIING
UH-WHE-EEEE!!!


I... LOST?
...
SHIT.
THIS SUCKS.
...
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'LL BE JUST FINE TO ME.
YOU GOT ME MAD, DIDN'T YOU?
I KNEW SOMETHING WAS UP WHEN YOU STARTED TALKING DIFFERENT.

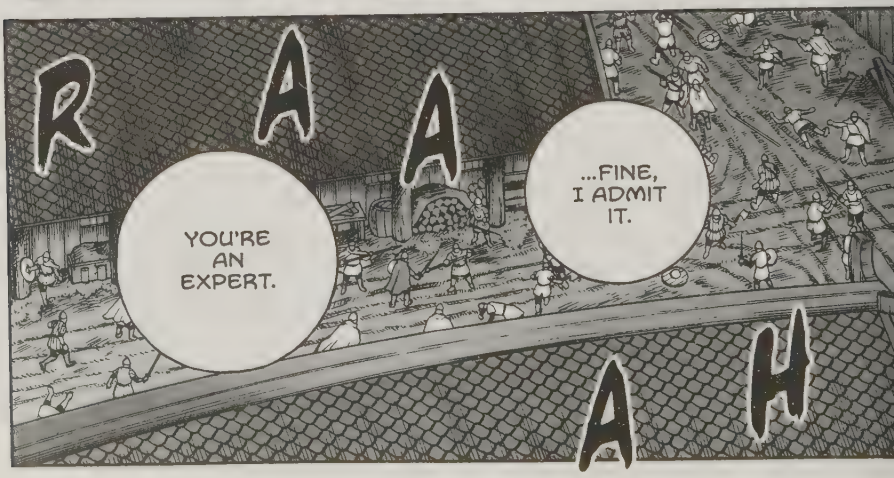
AHA HA, AHA HA HA HA.
HA HA...
...HA?
R A A A H

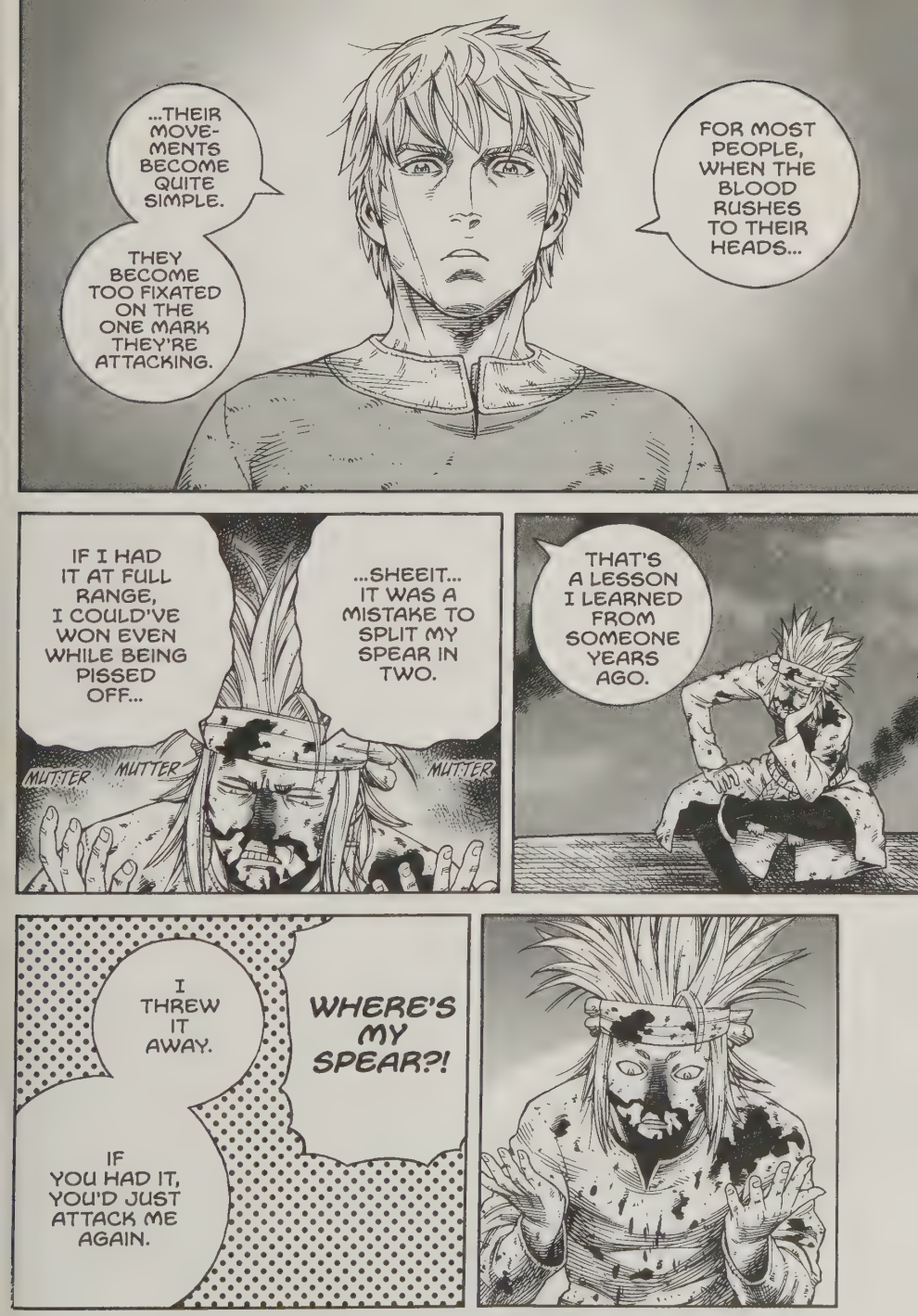
AAAA-ARGH!!

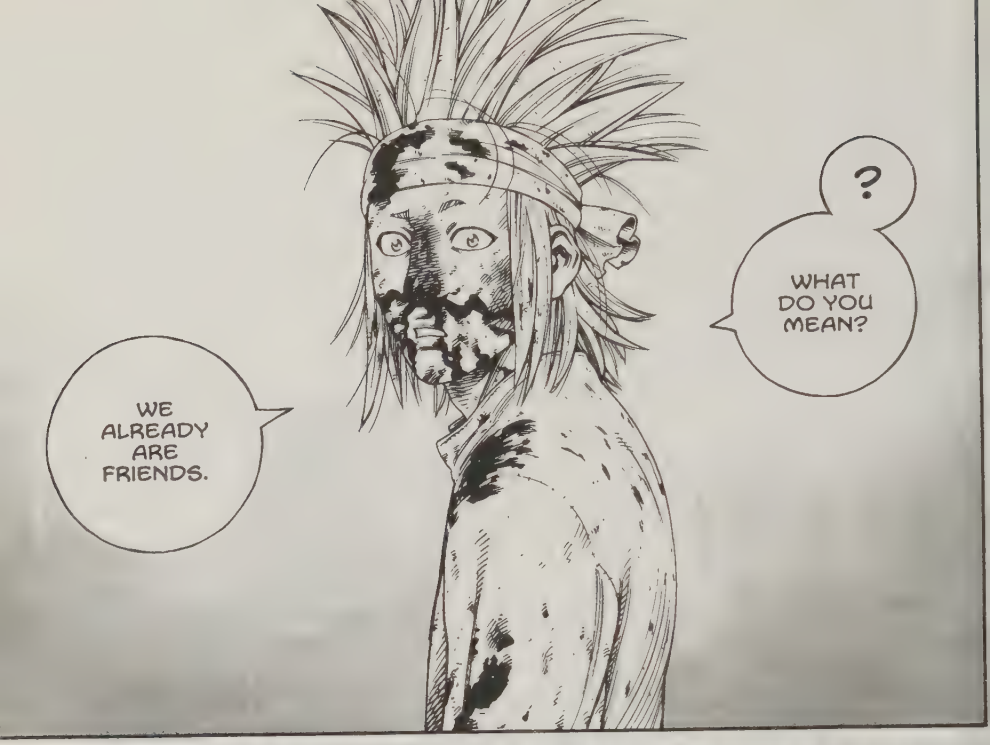
I'M NOT SAYING.

WHERE IS IT?! WHICH WAY DID YOU THROW IT?!

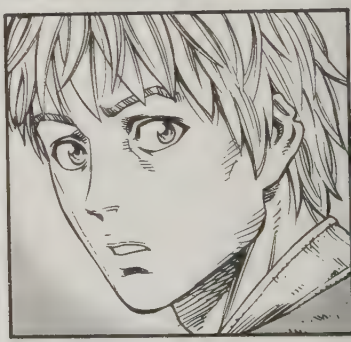
WHY WOULD YOU *DO* SOME-THING LIKE THAT?!

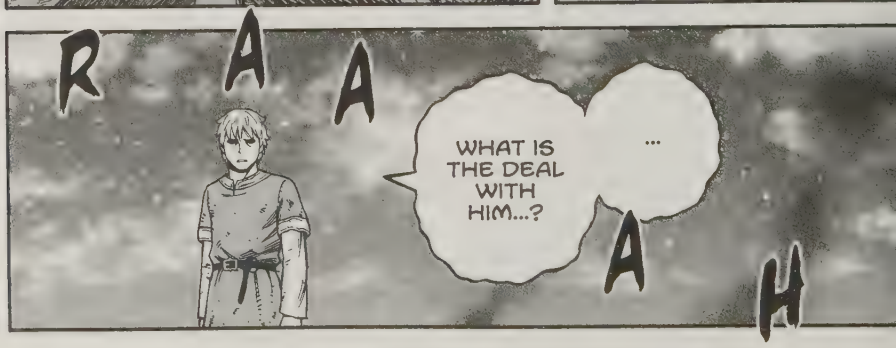


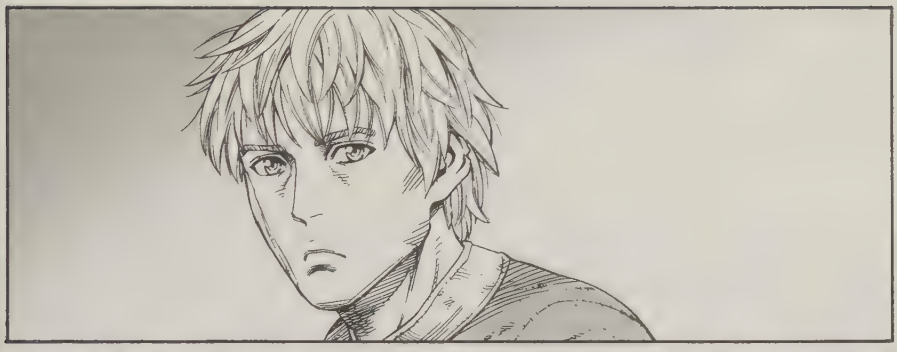

...THEIR MOVE-MENTS BECOME QUITE SIMPLE.
THEY BECOME TOO FIXATED ON THE ONE MARK THEY'RE ATTACKING.
FOR MOST PEOPLE, WHEN THE BLOOD RUSHES TO THEIR HEADS...
IF I HAD IT AT FULL RANGE, I COULD'VE WON EVEN WHILE BEING PISSED OFF...
...SHEEIT... IT WAS A MISTAKE TO SPLIT MY SPEAR IN TWO.
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
THAT'S A LESSON I LEARNED FROM SOMEONE YEARS AGO.
I THREW IT AWAY.
WHERE'S MY SPEAR?!
IF YOU HAD IT, YOU'D JUST ATTACK ME AGAIN.


WE ALREADY ARE FRIENDS.
?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

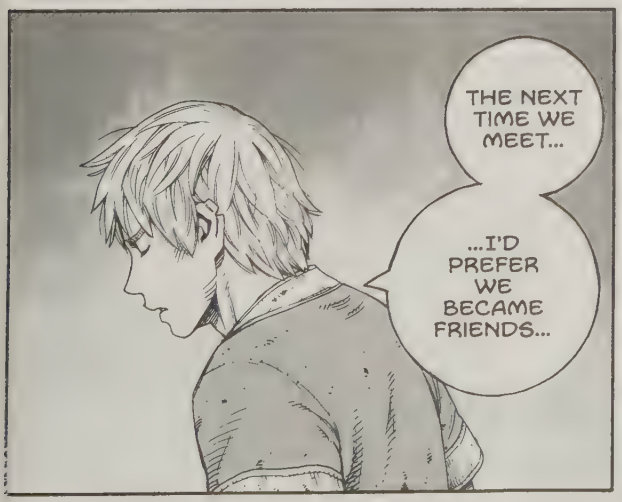
SO LONG, EXPERT!

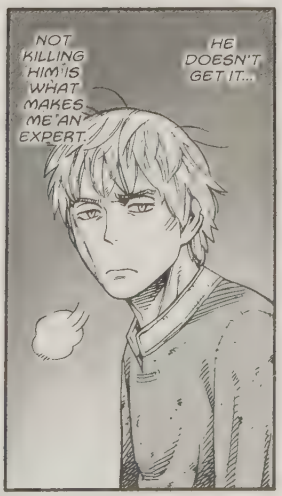



R A A A H
WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH HIM...?
...

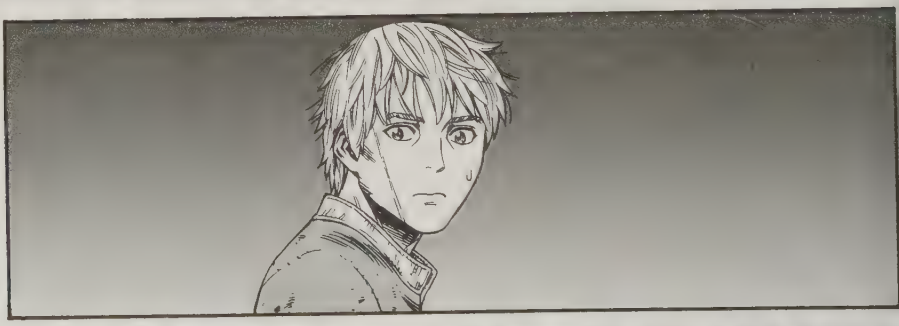


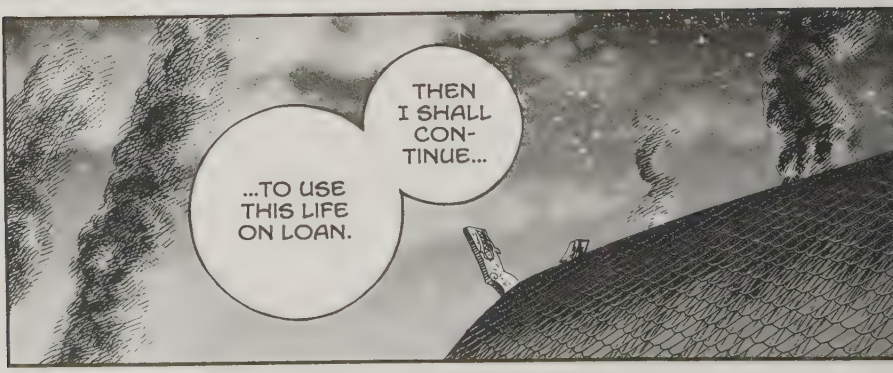
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!
YOU'VE GOT MORE EXPERIENCE THAN ME.
BUT I'VE GOT BETTER TALENT!
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, IT WON'T GO THE SAME WAY! I'LL WIN, AND I'LL KILL YOU!!

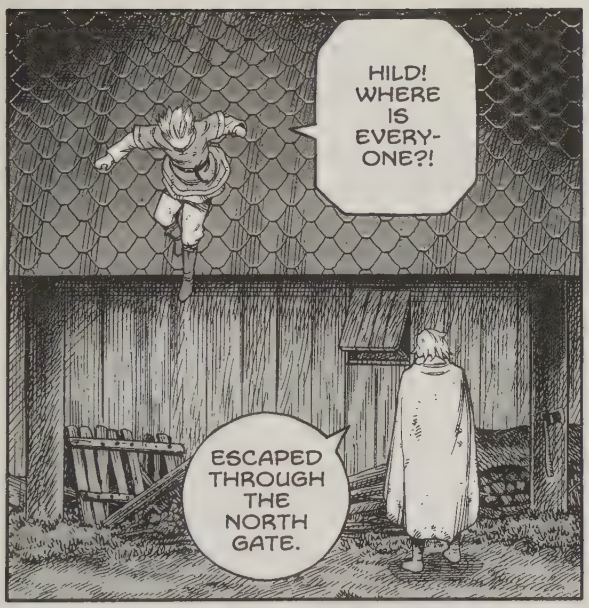

THE NEXT TIME WE MEET...
...I'D PREFER WE BECAME FRIENDS...


NOT KILLING HIM IS WHAT MAKES ME AN EXPERT.
HE DOESN'T GET IT...

YOU SURVIVED THIS ONE.
IF YOU HAD KILLED THAT SPEAR-MAN...
...I WOULD HAVE PUT AN ARROW THROUGH YOUR SKULL.

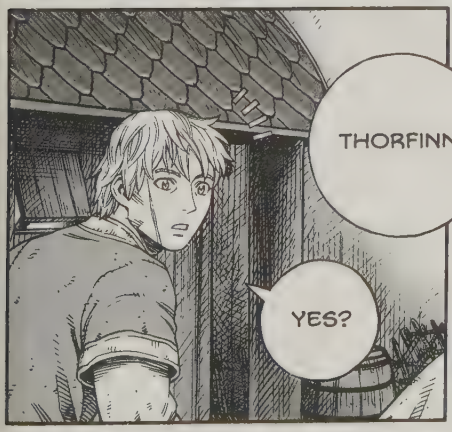



THEN I SHALL CON-TINUE...
...TO USE THIS LIFE ON LOAN.

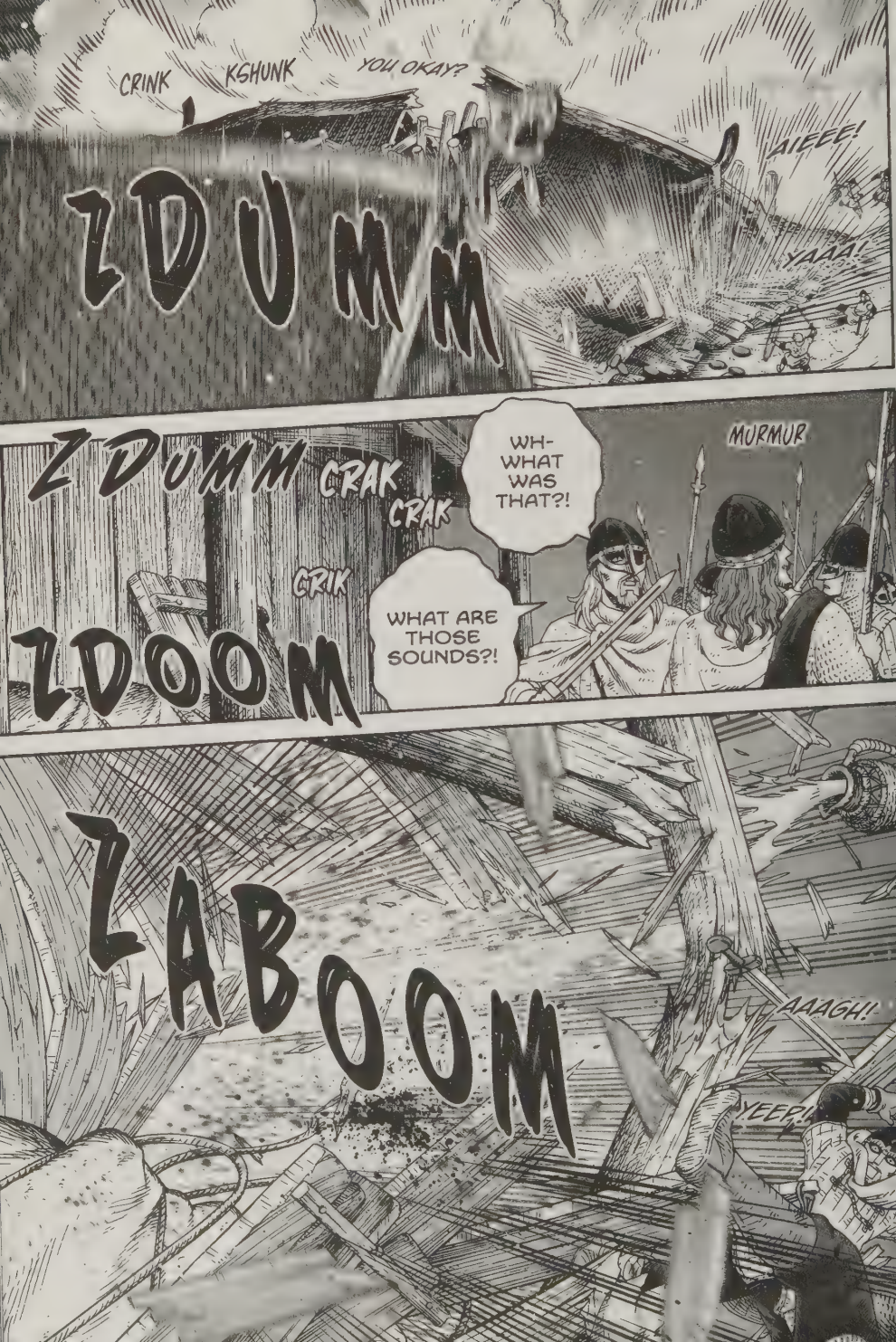

HILD! WHERE IS EVERY-ONE?!
ESCAPED THROUGH THE NORTH GATE.

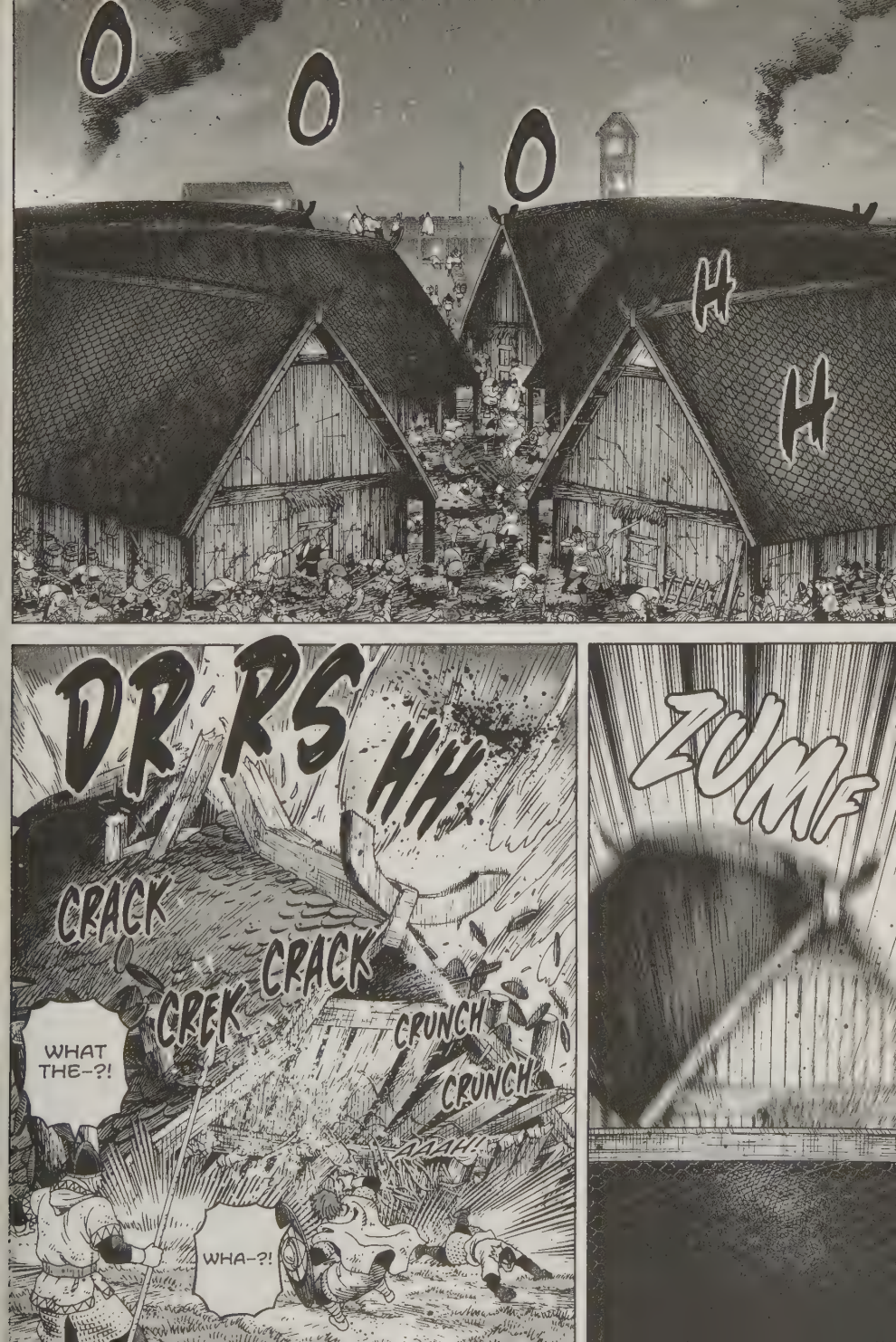
THORFINN!

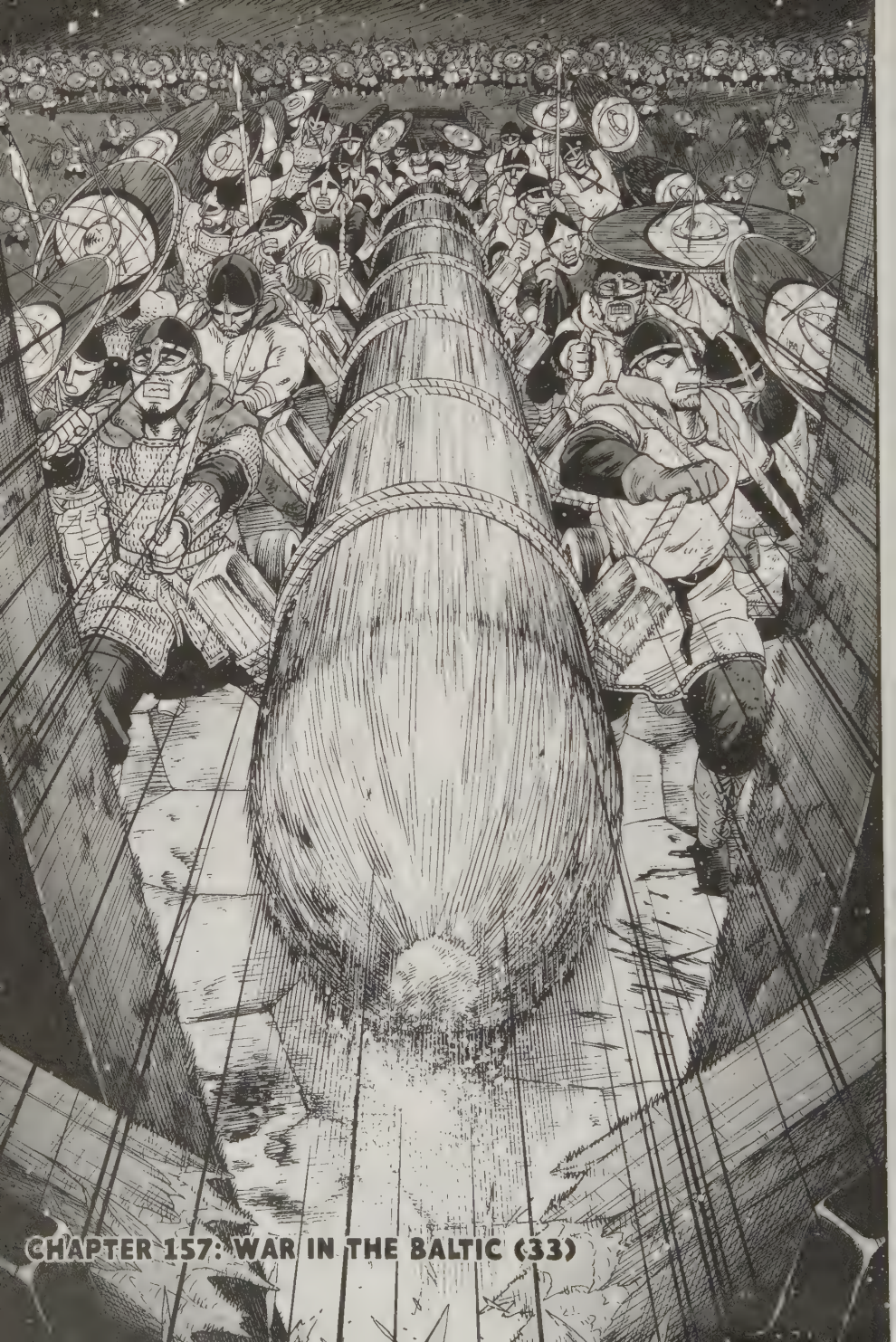
LET'S HURRY. NORTH GATE?
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY DID AFTER THAT.


THORFINN.
YES?

...


CRINK
KSHUNK
YOU OKAY?
AIEEE!
YAAA!
ZDUMM
ZDUMM
CRAK
CRAK
CRIK
ZDOOM
WH-WHAT WAS THAT?!
WHAT ARE THOSE SOUNDS?!
MURMUR
ZABOOM
AAAGH!
YEEP!


O
O
O
H
H
DR
RS
HH
CRACK
CREK
CRACK
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
MAH!
WHAT THE-?!
WHA-?!
ZUMF



CHAPTER 157: WAR IN THE BALTIC (33)

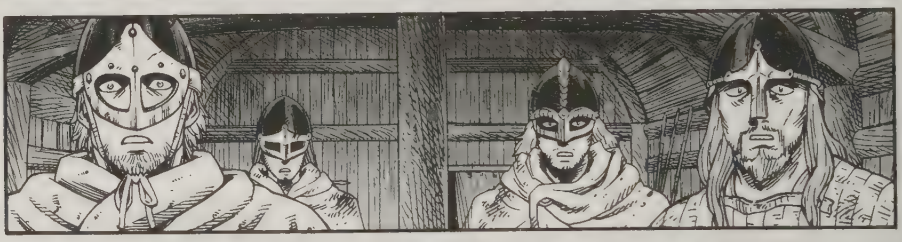
KSHUNK
CRIK
CREK
KSHUNK
WHERE'S... FLOKIIII?!
CRUNCH

THE SOUTH GATE'S BEEN BREACHED!!
WHAT ?!
STOMP STOMP
NO, SOUTH!
NOT THE WEST GATE?!
THE FIGHTING'S STILL CONTINUING AT THE WEST GATE!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF TURTLING BEHIND THESE WALLS, THEN...?
DAMN YOU...

A
A
IT'S OPEN!!
A
A
NOW!! GO, GO, GO, GO!!
DRM
CHARGE THE GATE!!
DRM
RAAAH!
RAHH!
DRM
DRM
GYAA!
DRM

THEN THE GATHERED GROUP WILL ESCAPE THE FORT.

GATHER ALL FORCES ASIDE FROM THE GATE TROOPS AT THE EASTERN GATE.

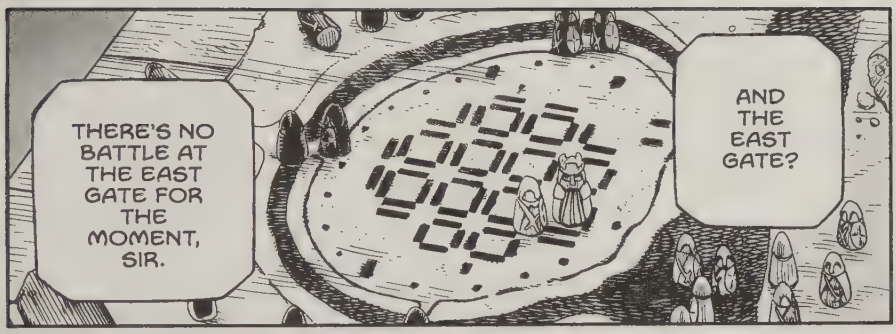


BUT OUR MEN ARE STILL FIGHTING!! YOU WOULD ABANDON THEM?!

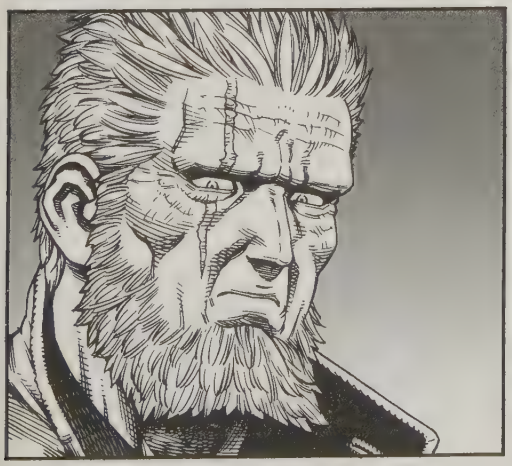
MAKE THE ORDERS QUICKLY. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

THAT'S RIGHT.

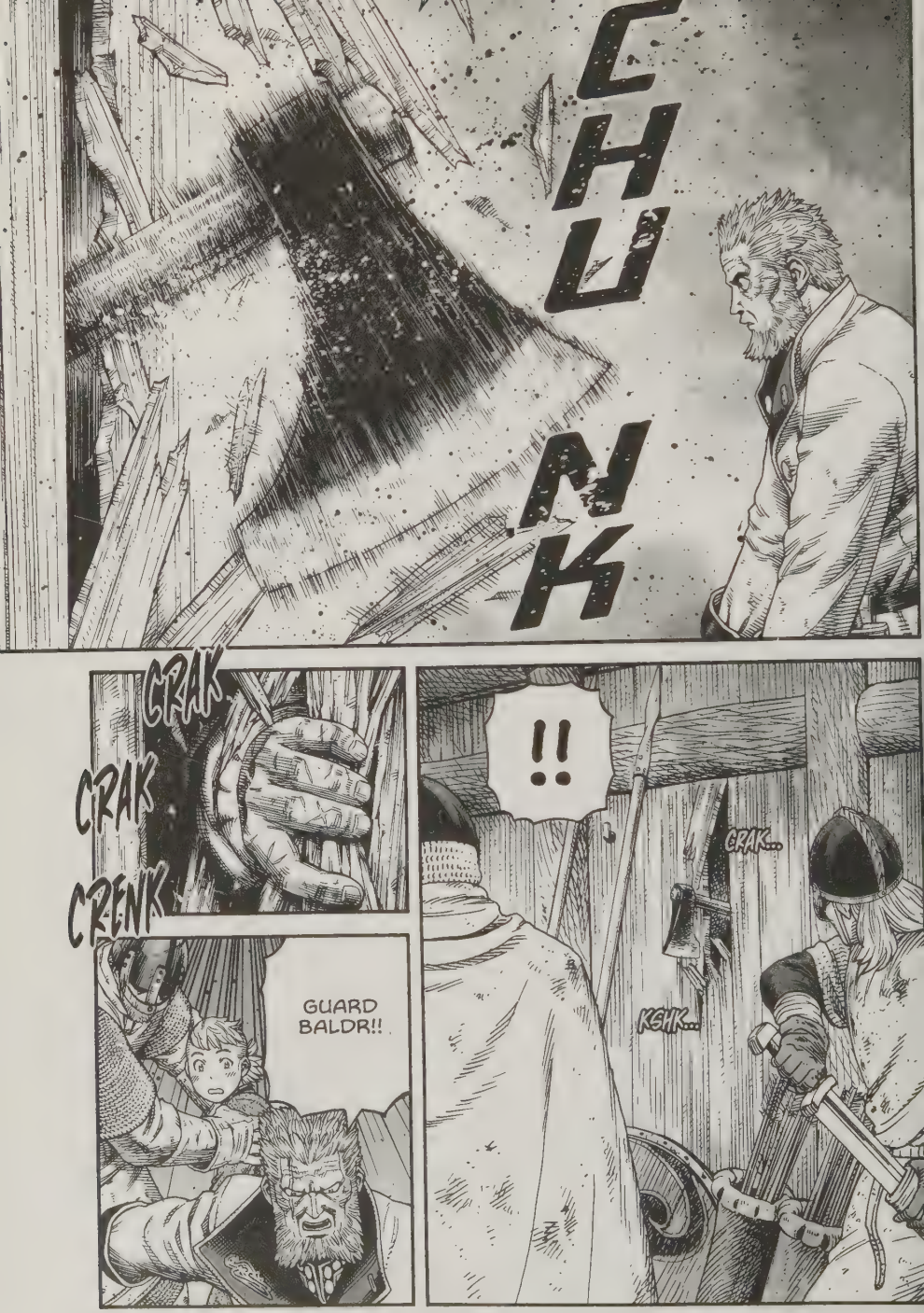
WE'RE ABANDONING JOMSBORG, COMMANDER?!

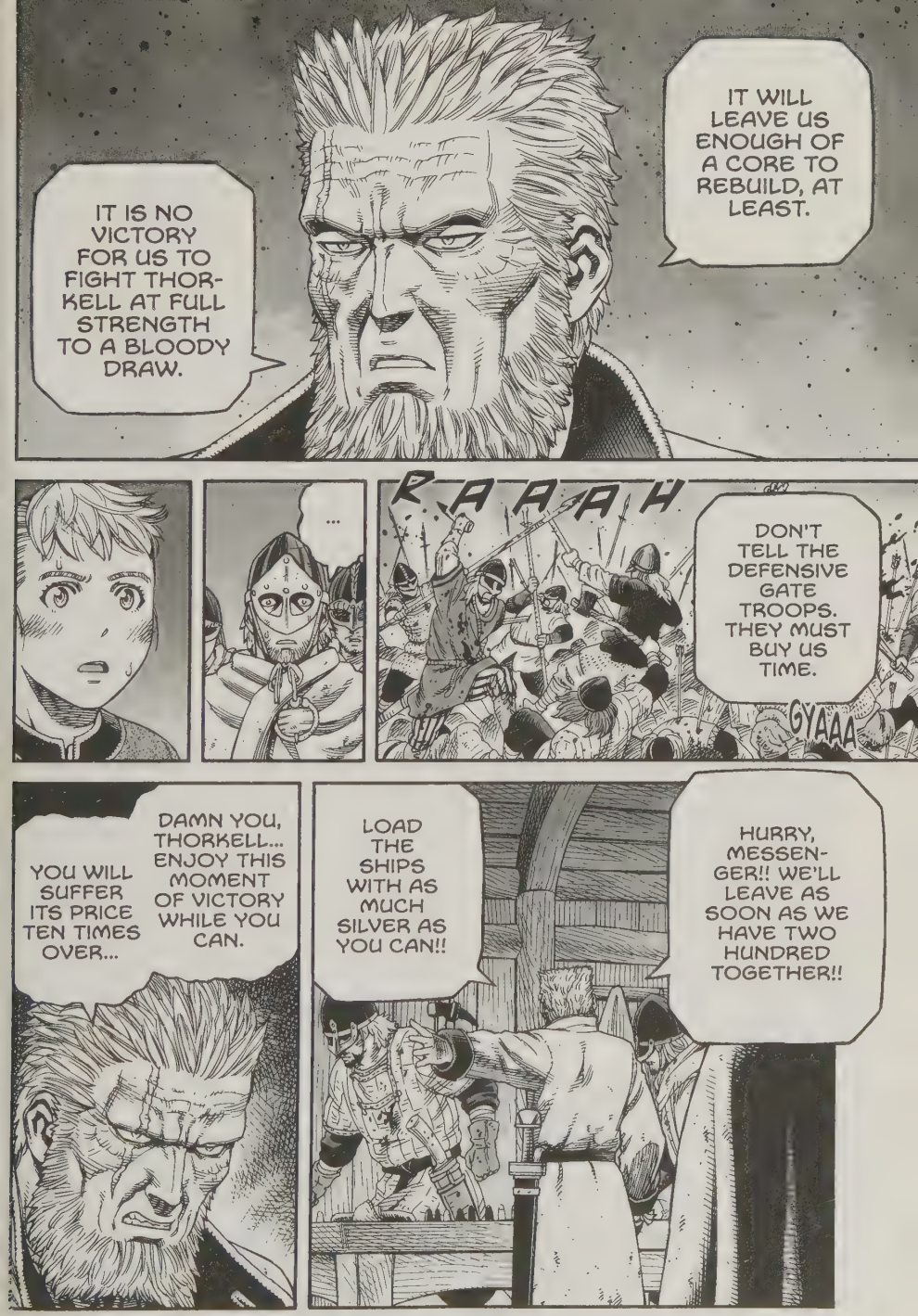

THERE'S NO BATTLE AT THE EAST GATE FOR THE MOMENT, SIR.
AND THE EAST GATE?

OUR FLEET HAS SUPERIORITY OVER THE RIVER, SO THE ENEMY CANNOT APPROACH.

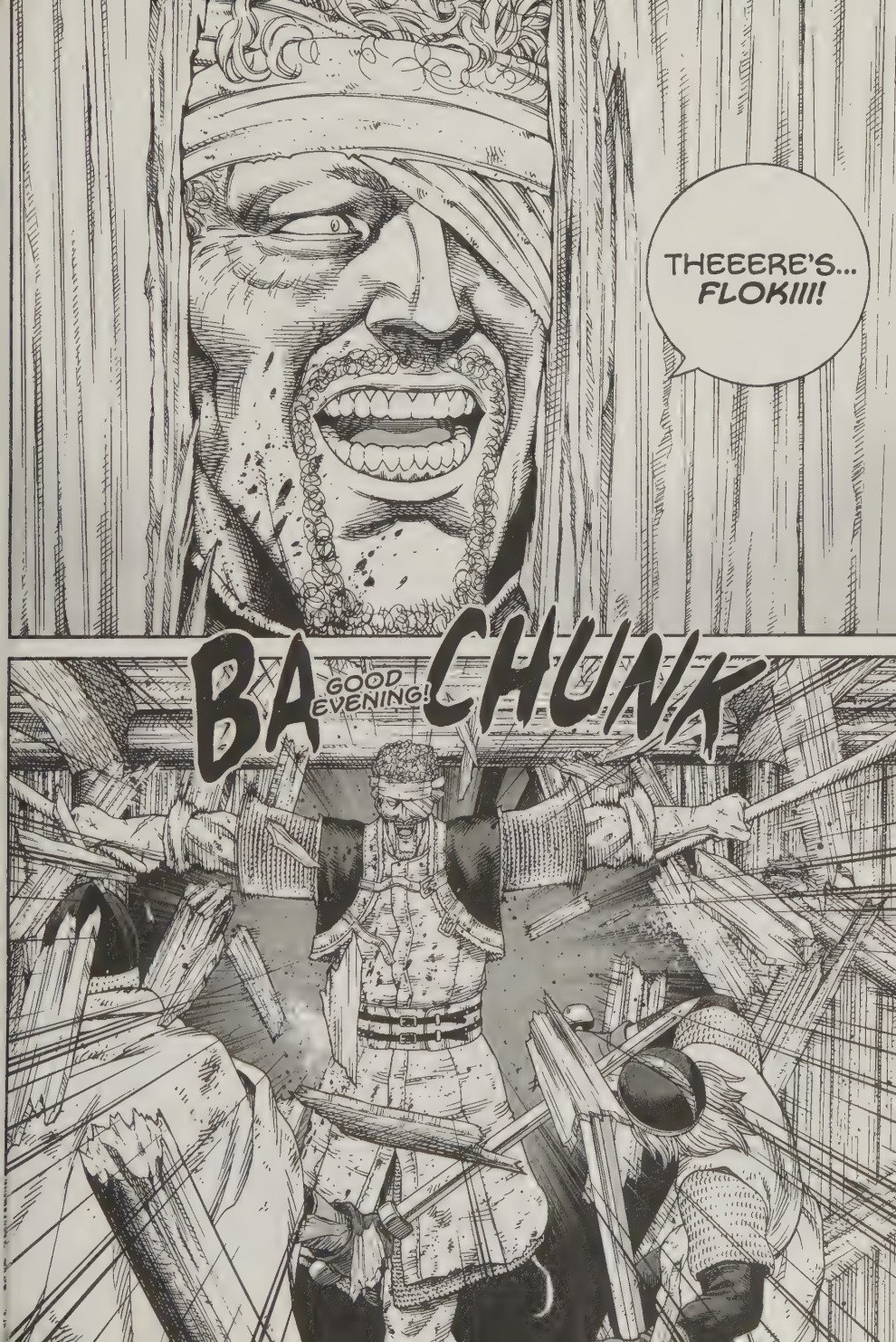


GRAND-FATHER ...?

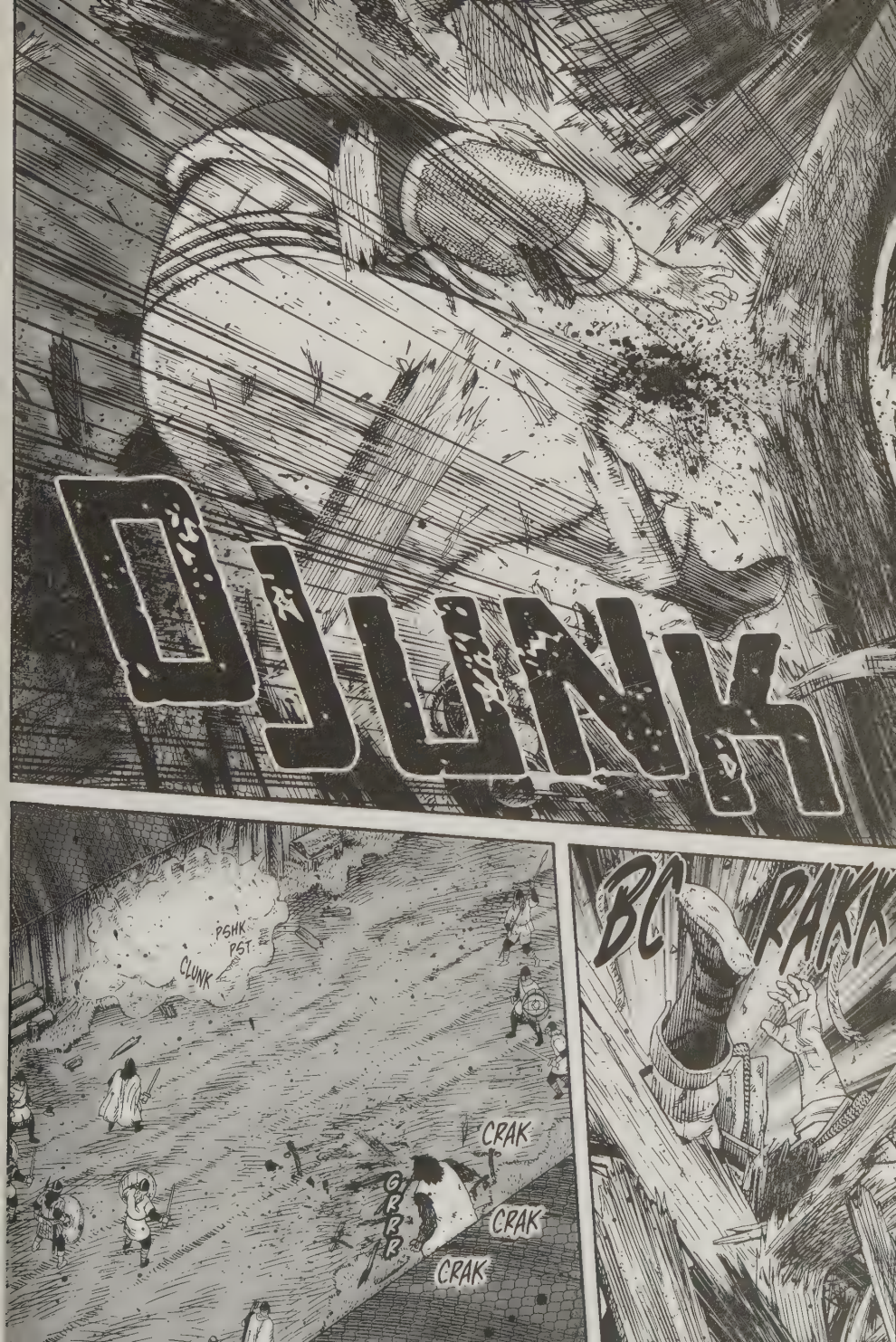

CHUNK
CRAK
CRAK
CRENK
GUARD BALDR!!
!!
CRAK...
KGHK...


IT IS NO VICTORY FOR US TO FIGHT THORKELL AT FULL STRENGTH TO A BLOODY DRAW.
IT WILL LEAVE US ENOUGH OF A CORE TO REBUILD, AT LEAST.
...
RAAAH
DON'T TELL THE DEFENSIVE GATE TROOPS. THEY MUST BUY US TIME.
GYAAA
YOU WILL SUFFER ITS PRICE TEN TIMES OVER...
DAMN YOU, THORKELL... ENJOY THIS MOMENT OF VICTORY WHILE YOU CAN.
LOAD THE SHIPS WITH AS MUCH SILVER AS YOU CAN!!
HURRY, MESSENGER!! WE'LL LEAVE AS SOON AS WE HAVE TWO HUNDRED TOGETHER!!

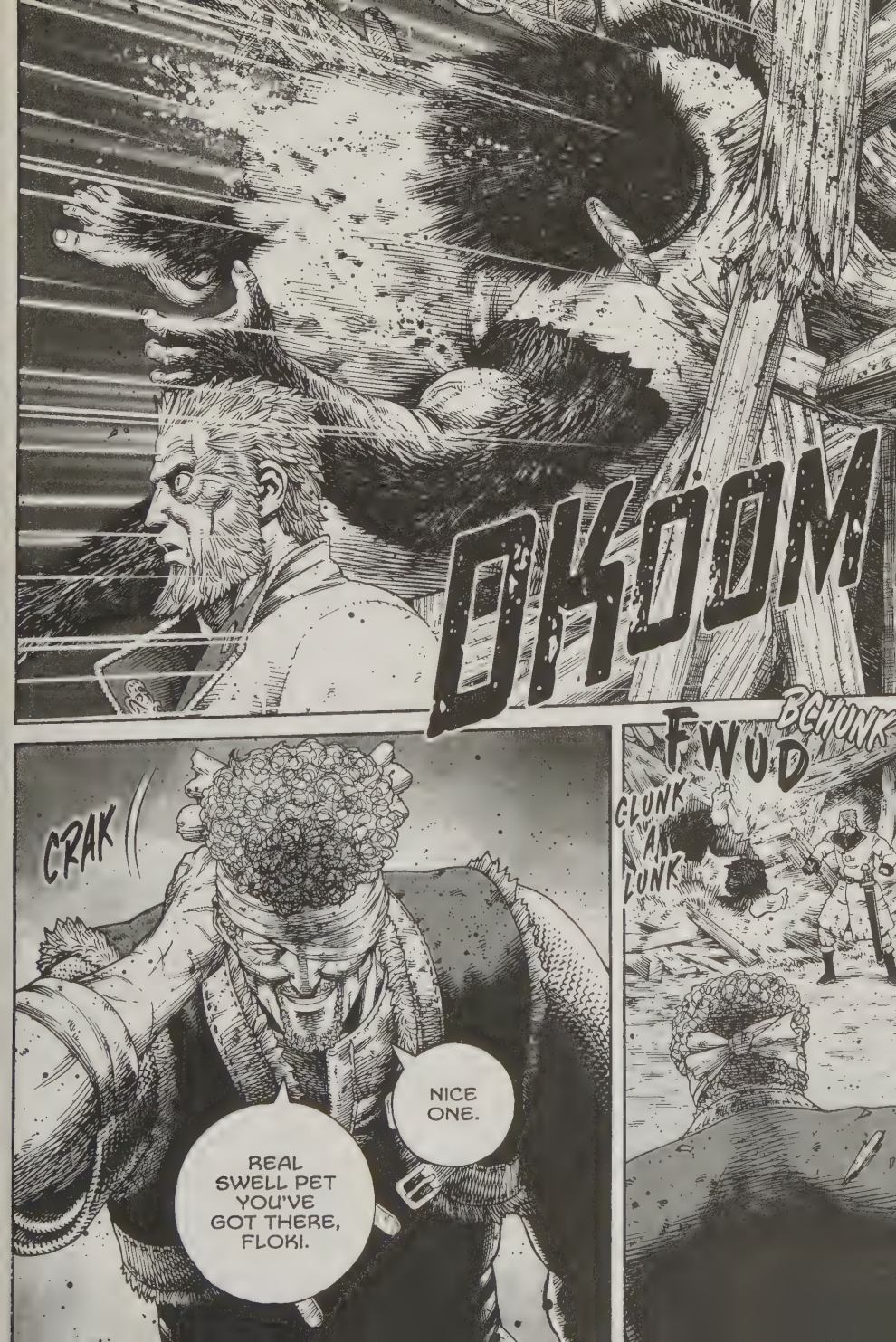
COME, YMIR!!
THERE YOU ARE, YOU MONSTER!!
ZU
MM
YES, PAPA.
EEEK!!

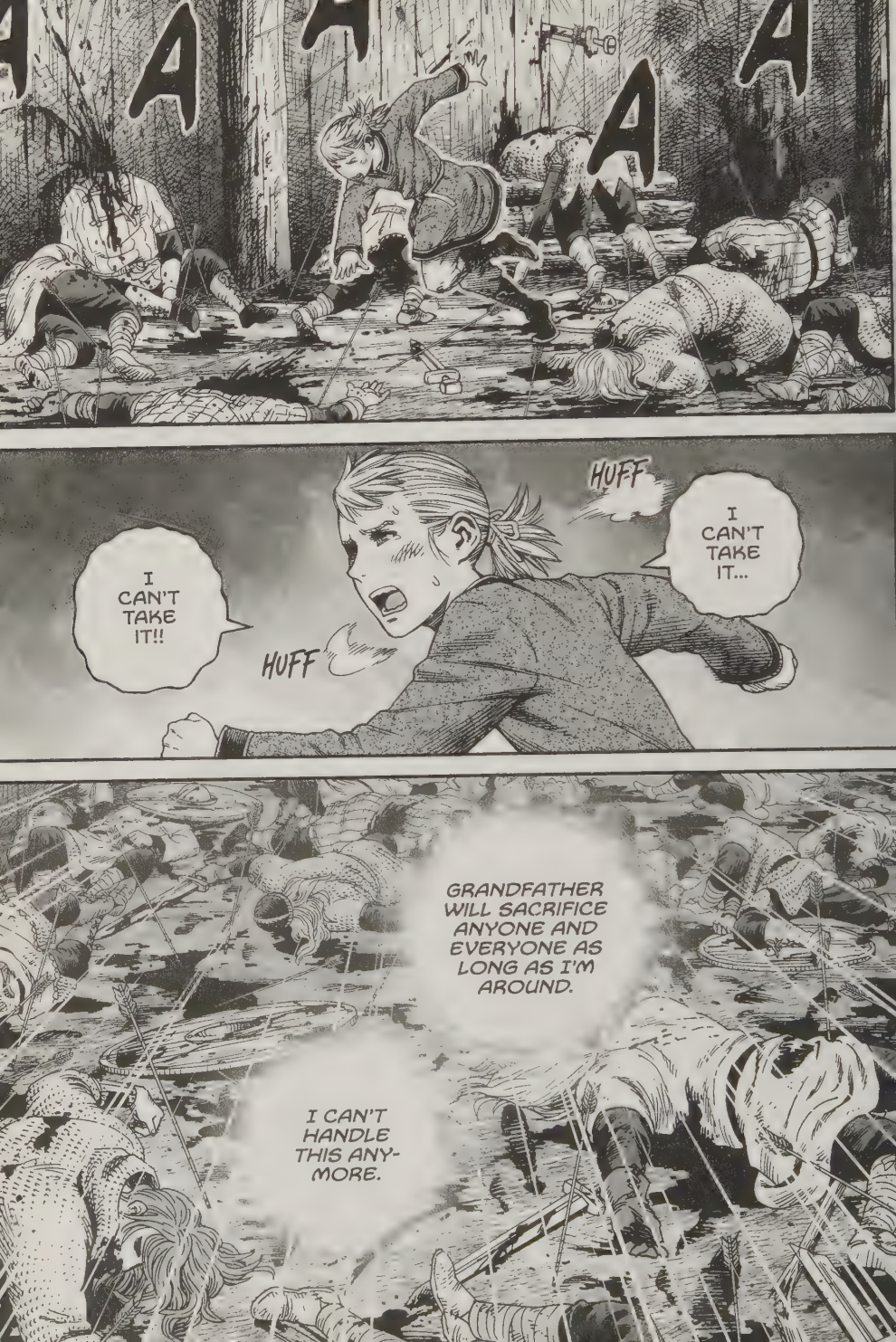

THEEERE'S... FLOKIII!
BA
GOOD EVENING!
CHUNK

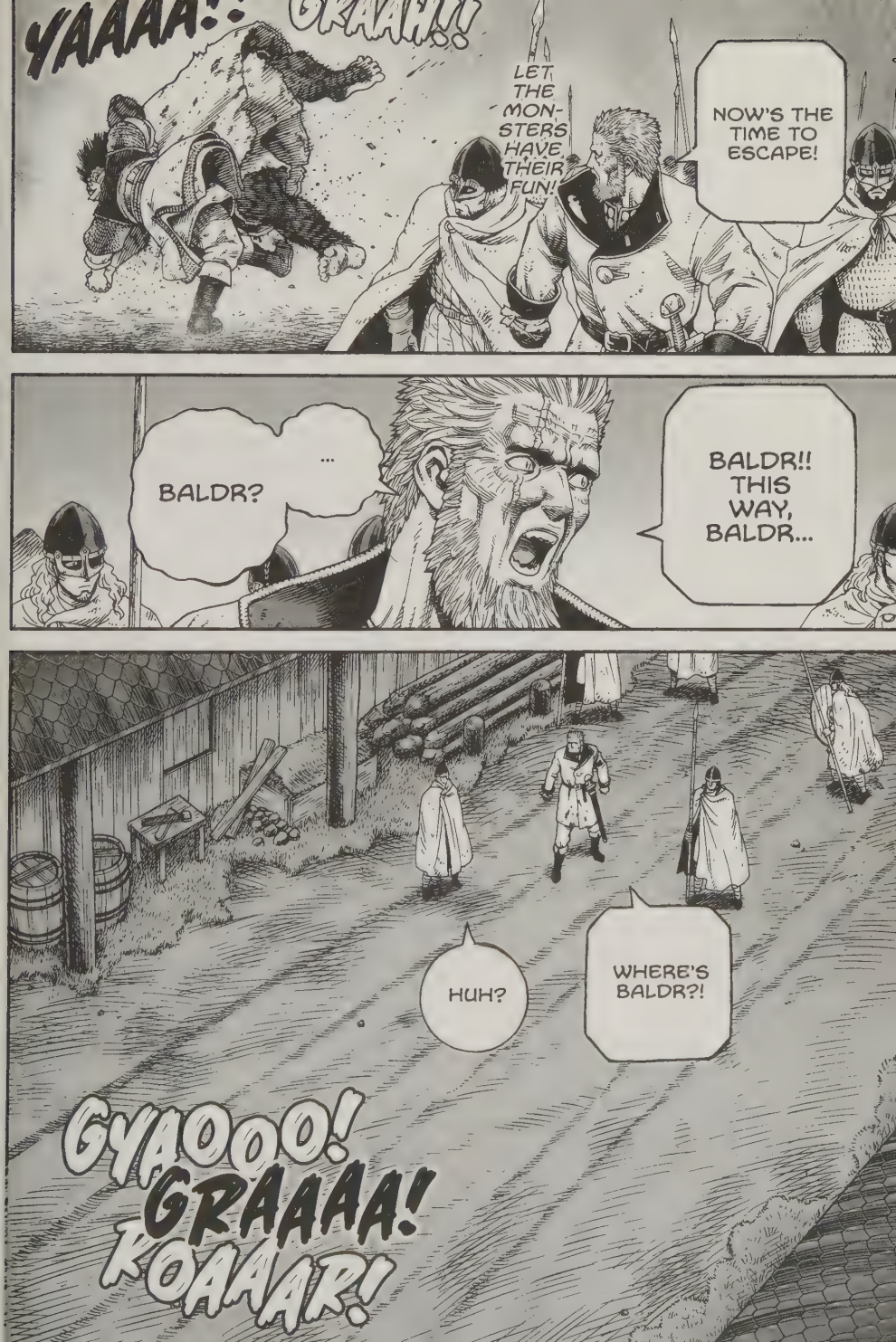
YES, PAPA.
HAAA HA HA! NOW THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL A SECRET WEAPON, THORKELL!
FINISH HIM OFF, YMIR!!
CLANG
CLUNK CLUNK
KSHUNK
CRAK
PLINK
ZMF ZMF ZMF
WHUD

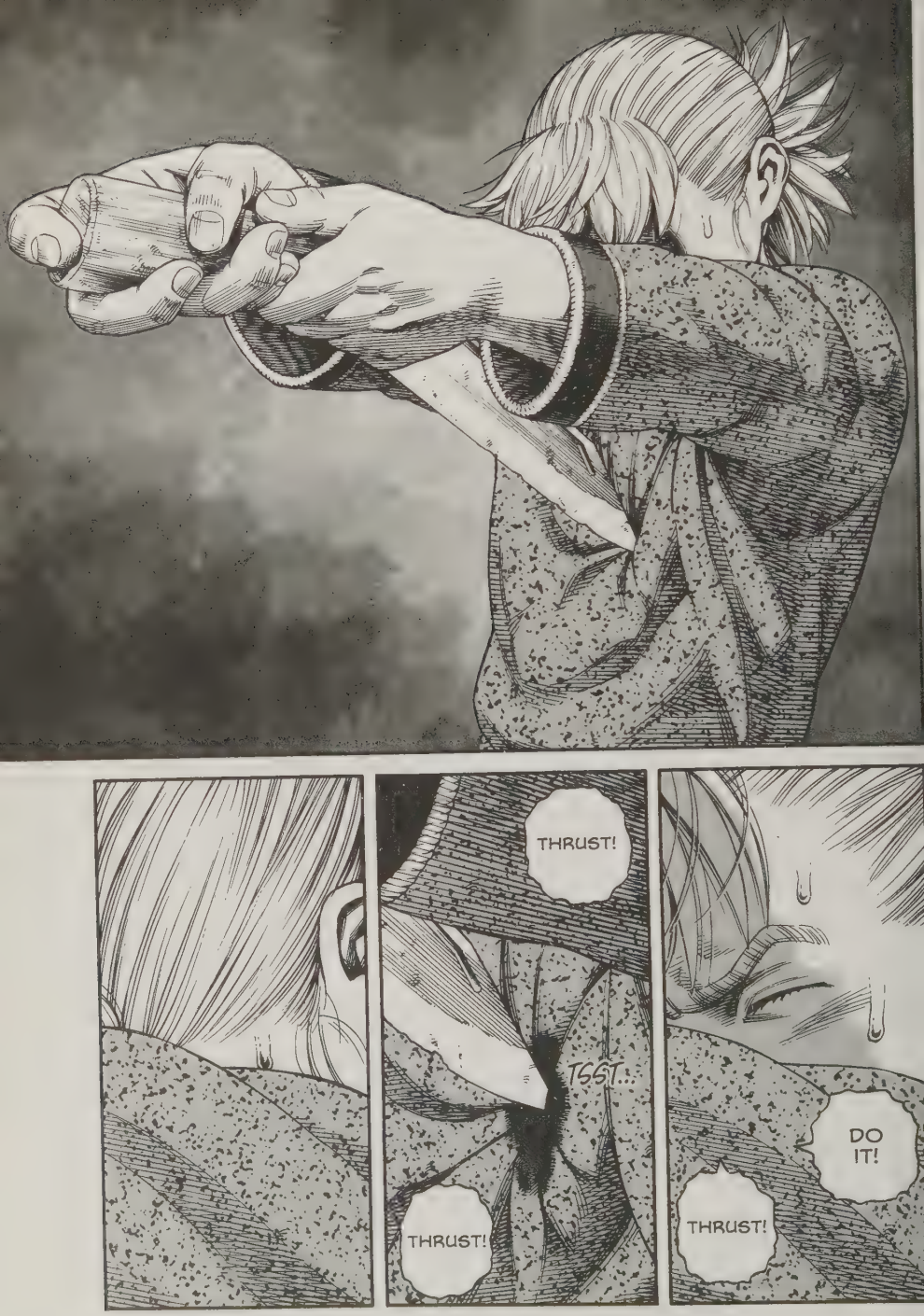

DJUNK
PSHK
PST
CLUNK
CRAK
GRRR
CRAK
CRAK
BC
RAKK

STAND UP, YMIR!! KEEP FIGHTING FOR PAPA!!
IF YOU KILL HIM, I'LL GIVE YOU YOUR FAVORITE THING TO EAT! AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!!
IT HURTS, PAPA.
THERE YOU GO!!
YMIR WILL TRY, THEN.
EVEN PEOPLE! MANY OF THEM!
EVEN PEOPLE?
GASHING
YMIR WILL TRY!!


OKOM
CRAK
NICE ONE.
REAL SWELL PET YOU'VE GOT THERE, FLOKI.
FWUD
BCHUNK
GLUNK
A
LUNK


A
A
A
A
HUFF
I CAN'T TAKE IT...
I CAN'T TAKE IT!!
HUFF
GRANDFATHER WILL SACRIFICE ANYONE AND EVERYONE AS LONG AS I'M AROUND.
I CAN'T HANDLE THIS ANY-MORE.

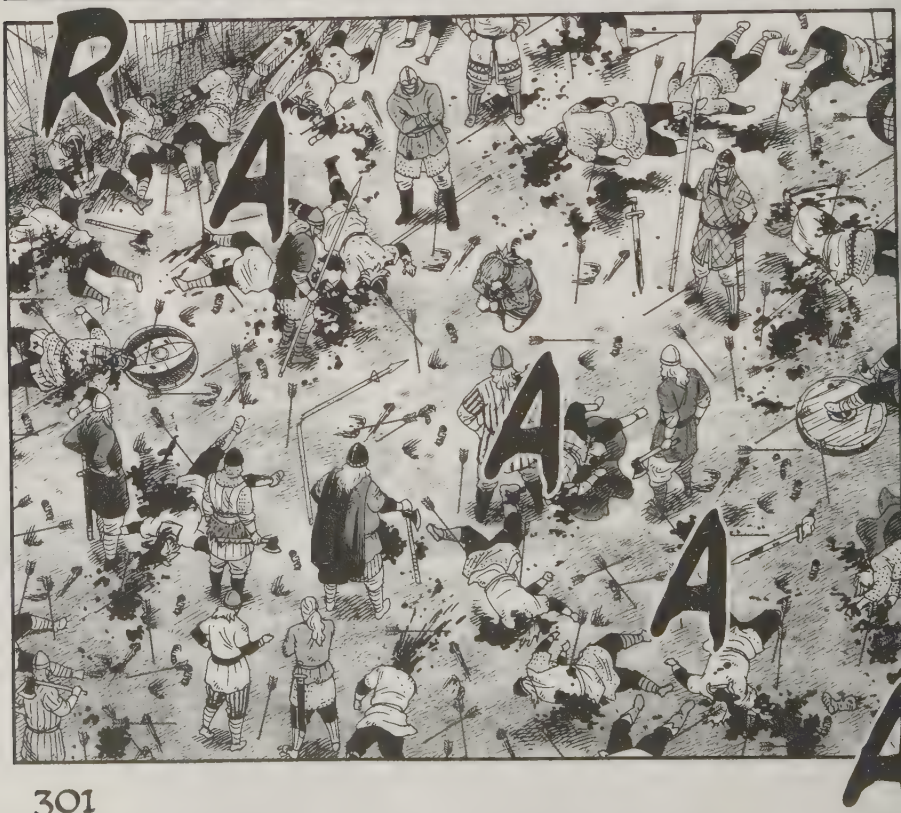

YAAAA!!
GRAAH!!
LET THE MON-STERS HAVE THEIR FUN!
NOW'S THE TIME TO ESCAPE!
BALDR?
...
BALDR!! THIS WAY, BALDR...
HUH?
WHERE'S BALDR?!
GYAOOO!
GRAAAA!
KOAAAR!


THRUST!
TSST...
THRUST!
DO IT!
THRUST!

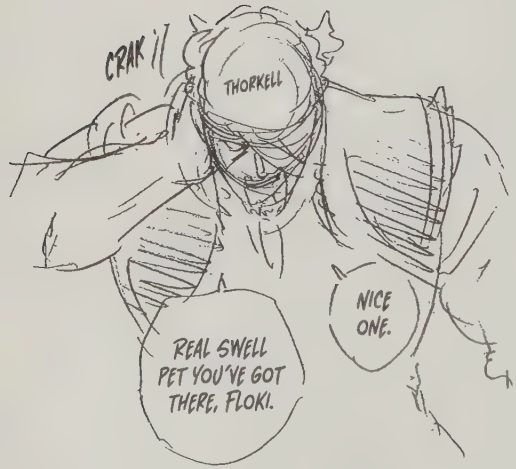
A
A
A
A
A
HFF
HFF
PHEW
PHEW

STOMP-STOMP-STOMP
CLUNK
CLANK
HUH?
WAAAA!
AAAA-!

WAAA!
SO WHAT?! IT MIGHT BE BALDR, YOU FUCKING IDIOT!
YEAH? SO WHAT?
HEY! THERE'S SOME KID BAWLING OVER THERE.

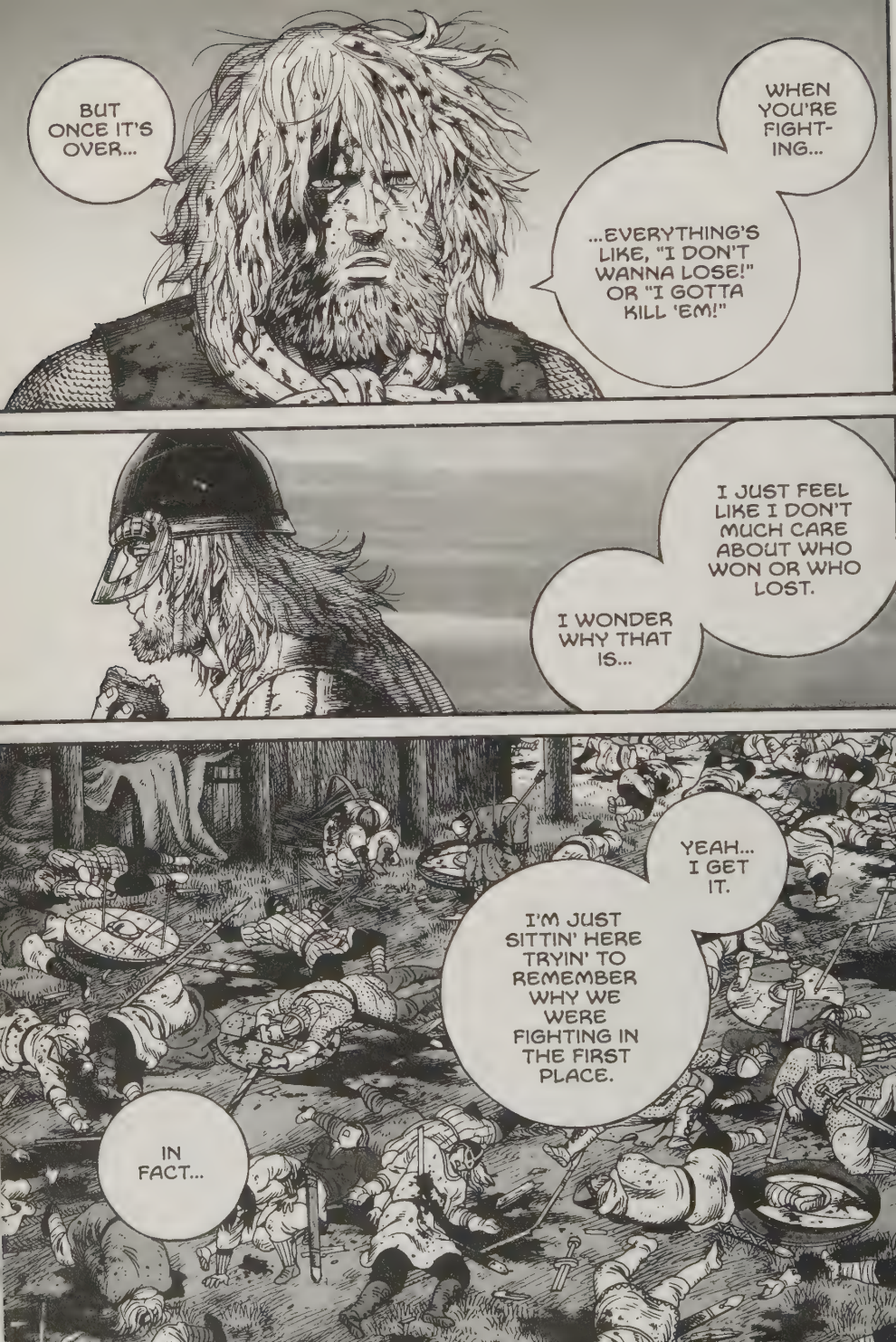

R
A
A
A
A

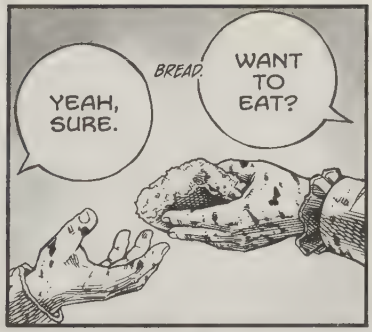
THUNK
NN...
SNIFF!
AAAAAA-AAHHH...
AAAAAH... AAAA...


CRAK
THORKELL
REAL SWELL PET YOU'VE GOT THERE, FLOKI.
NICE ONE.

BALDRRRR!!
BALDRRRR!!
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ESCAPING IF WE DON'T HAVE BALDR, YOU FOOL?!
ESCAPE ?!
WE OUGHT TO HURRY, CHIEF, OR WE'LL MISS OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE...
R
A
BALDRRR!!
BALDRRR!!
A
A
A

OH. SHIT.
FELL ASLEEP.
MM...
AAAAAA
DUNNO.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S MORNING ALREADY.
STILL CARRYING ON OVER THERE.
HEY, WHAT'S THE SITUA-TION?


BUT ONCE IT'S OVER...
WHEN YOU'RE FIGHT-ING...
...EVERYTHING'S LIKE, "I DON'T WANNA LOSE!" OR "I GOTTA KILL 'EM!"
I JUST FEEL LIKE I DON'T MUCH CARE ABOUT WHO WON OR WHO LOST.
I WONDER WHY THAT IS...
YEAH... I GET IT.
I'M JUST SITTIN' HERE TRYIN' TO REMEMBER WHY WE WERE FIGHTING IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IN FACT...



YEAH.

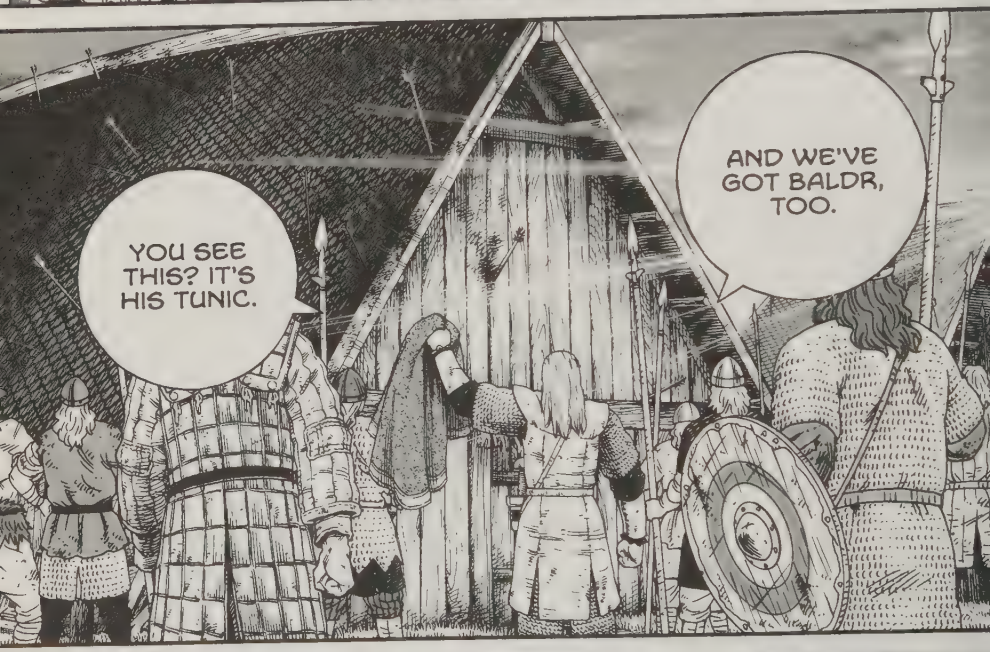
AAAAAH

IT'S OVER.

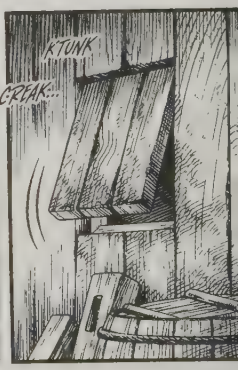
YOU KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE...?

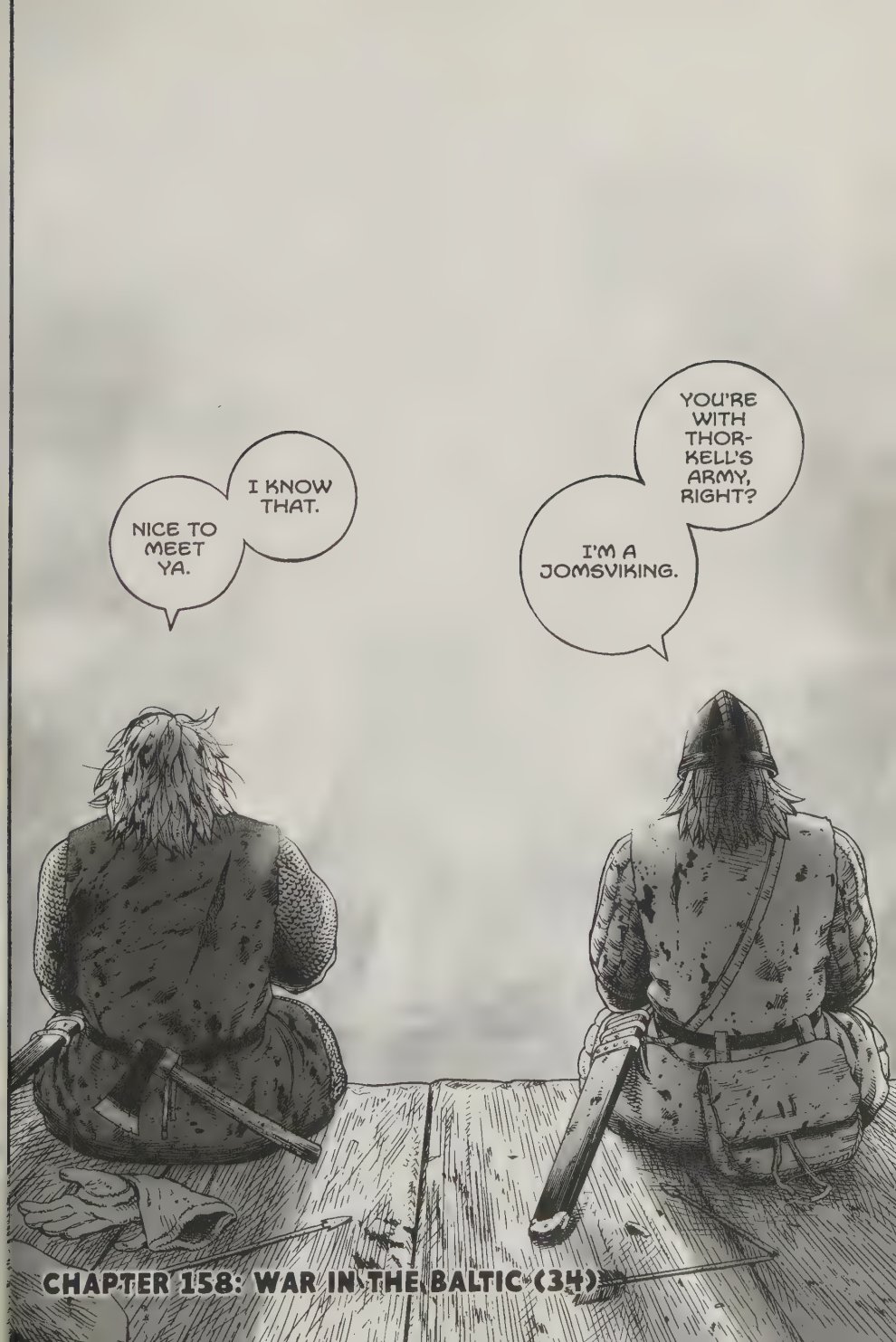
LIKE IT'S OVER.

GIVE IT UP ALREADY. WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED.
HEY! FLOKI! GET OUT HERE!

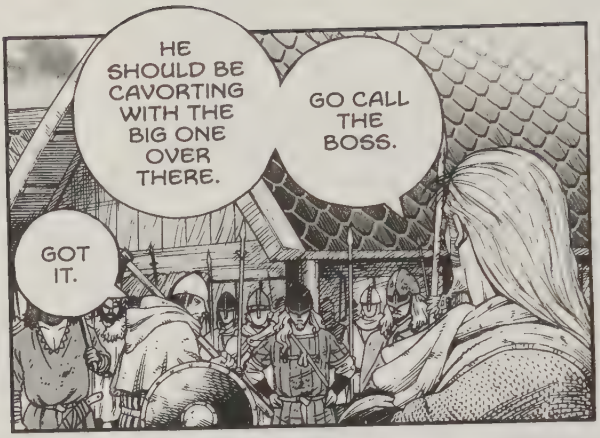

YOU SEE THIS? IT'S HIS TUNIC.
AND WE'VE GOT BALDR, TOO.

KILLING IS THE BOSS'S JOB.
THIS IS A WASTE. WHY ARE WE TAKIN' HIM ALIVE?
LET'S JUST KILL HIM.

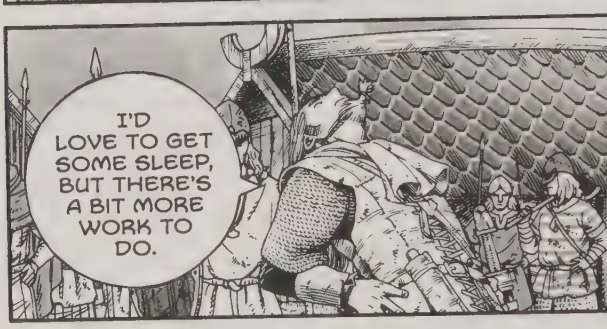

KTUNK
CREAK...



CHAPTER 158: WAR IN THE BALTIC (34)


HE SHOULD BE CAVORTING WITH THE BIG ONE OVER THERE.
GO CALL THE BOSS.
GOT IT.

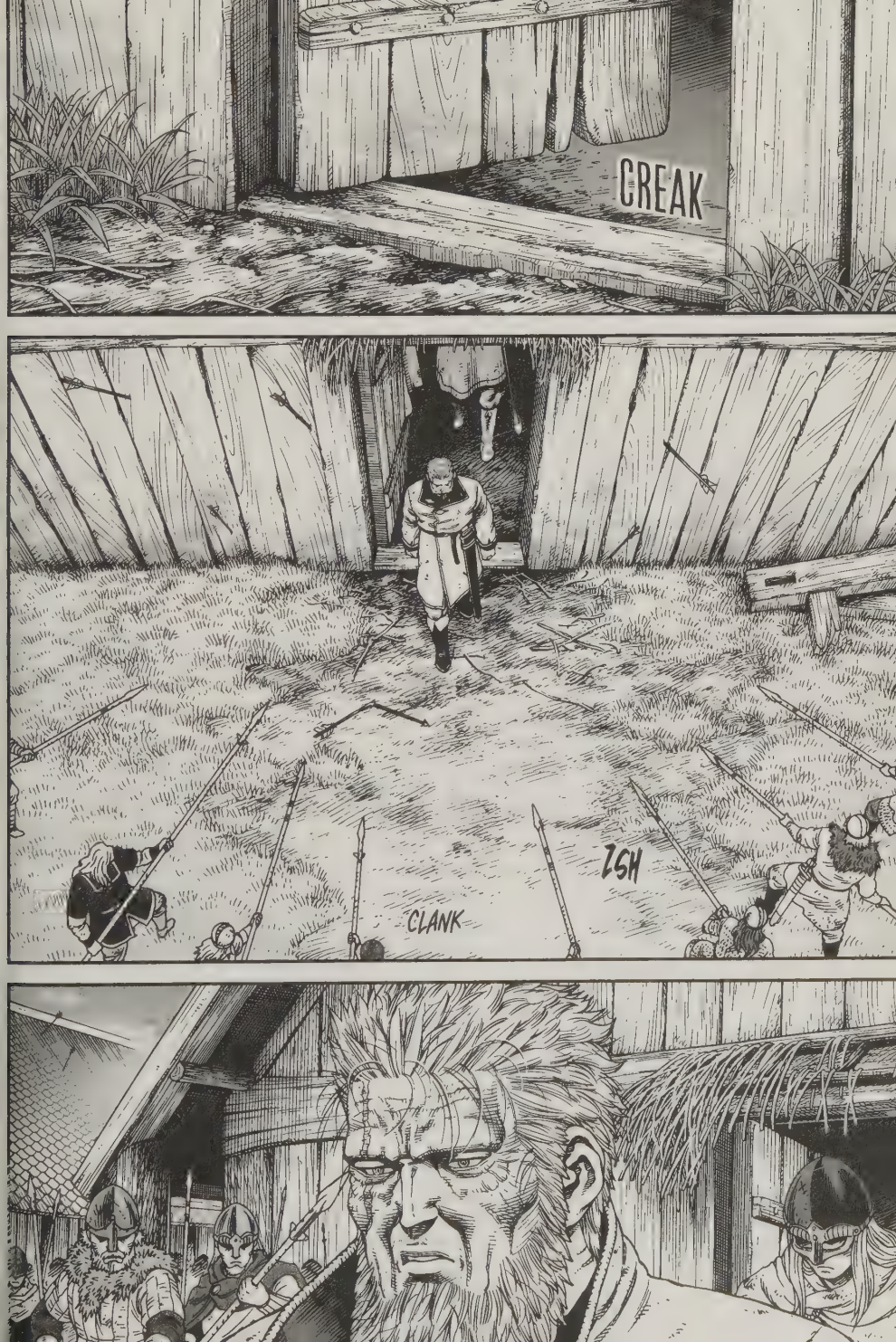
MORNING.


I'D LOVE TO GET SOME SLEEP, BUT THERE'S A BIT MORE WORK TO DO.

AHH, IT'S ALL OVER, ISN'T IT?

RAAAAAH

A
A
A
A
A
DON'T LET GO, BOSS!! YOU'VE GOT THIS!!
THAT'S IT! YOU'VE GOT HIM IN A GOOD SPOT!!


CREAK
ZSH
CLANK

THUD
CLANG CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
DAA-AAH!!
AND HE'S DOWN AND OUT!!
THE WINNER IS... THOOOR-KELLLL!!
I NEVER THOUGHT IN MY LIFE I'D SEE A MAN BIGGER THAN THORKELL...
HA HA HA!
I FELT GREAT! THAT WAS FUN.
GOOD FIGHT!
IT'S NOT OFTEN THAT YOU'RE INVOLVED IN A LENGTHY BOUT LIKE THAT. HOW DID YOU FEEL OUT THERE TODAY?
CLAP CLAP

GKRRK
GI...
YOU CAN DO IT, BOSS!!
CHOKE HIM OUT!!

I'LL GIVE HIM HALF OF MY FOOD!
PLEASE! CAN'T WE KEEP HIM?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE STILL PLAYING AROUND, THORKELL.
LOOK AROUND YOU. EVERYONE ELSE IS CLEANING UP.
IF YOU DON'T LET ME KEEP HIM, I WON'T CLEAN UP!!
WE SHOULD EXECUTE THEM AND END THIS WAR.
WE HAVE FLOKI AND BALDR CAPTIVE.
THAT'S YOUR CLEAN-UP JOB.

I'D NEVER FIND SOME-ONE ELSE AS FUN AS HIM AGAIN.

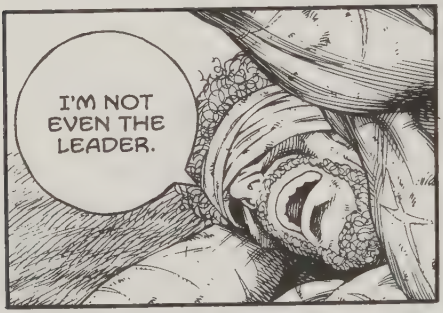
AH! HEY!

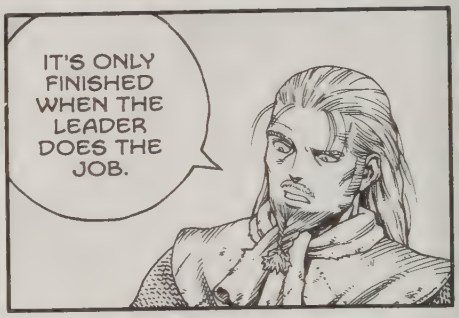
DON'T KILL HIM!!

YOU KNOW IT WON'T BE FREE TO FEED HIM, RIGHT?

BUT HE'S GOING TO EAT A TON.

SHUD-DUP.
COME NOW, THORKELL.
YOU GUYS FINISH THEM OFF INSTEAD.
ROLL

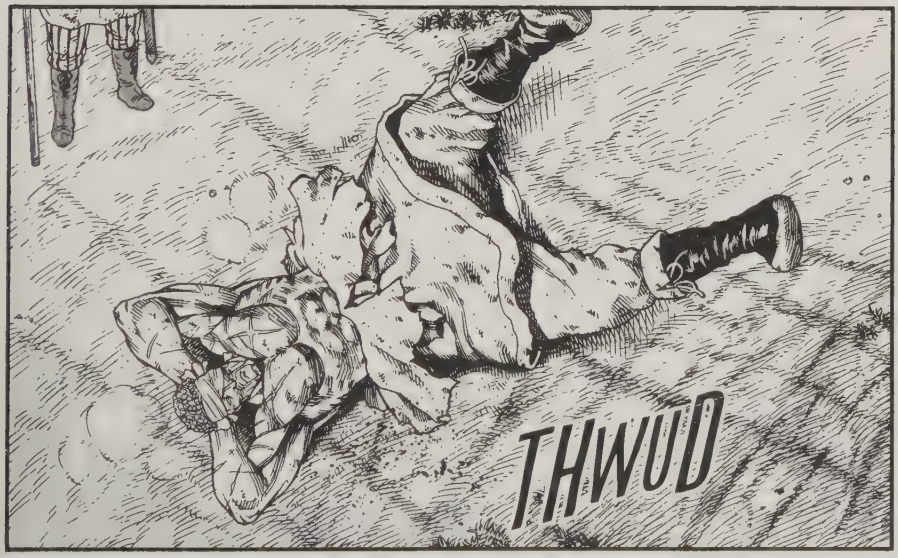

I'M NOT EVEN THE LEADER.

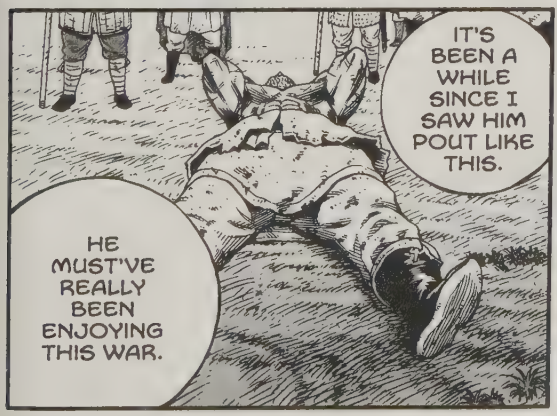

IT'S ONLY FINISHED WHEN THE LEADER DOES THE JOB.

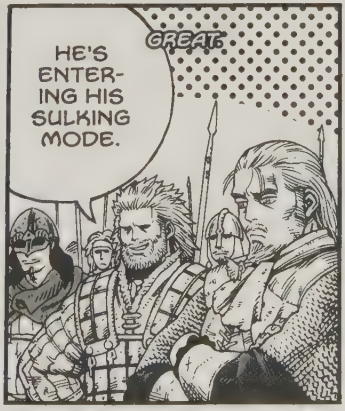
I COM-PLETELY FORGOT.
RIGHT, THAT WAS THE ARRANGE-MENT.
THEN WHO...
OH!

FIND THORFINN KARLSEFNI AND BRING HIM HERE.

UGGGGHHHH...


THWUD


IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I SAW HIM POUT LIKE THIS.
HE MUST'VE REALLY BEEN ENJOYING THIS WAR.


GREAT.
HE'S ENTER-ING HIS SULKING MODE.

THORFINN! HILD!

THANK GOOD-NESS...

AHHHH...

S-SORRY, WERE YOU OUT SEARCHING FOR ME?

SIGURD GOT HURT REALLY BAD, SO I WANTED TO TEND TO HIS WOUNDS...

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

I'M SO GLAD...

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT...

BMP

Y...

YUH...

BMP

BMP

YUH...

BMP

YE-HAH...

BMP

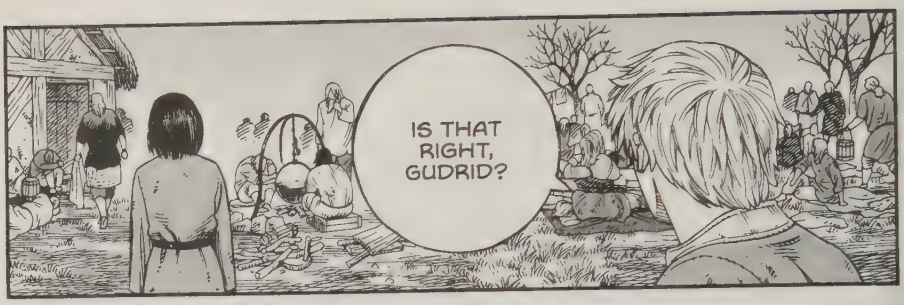
BMP

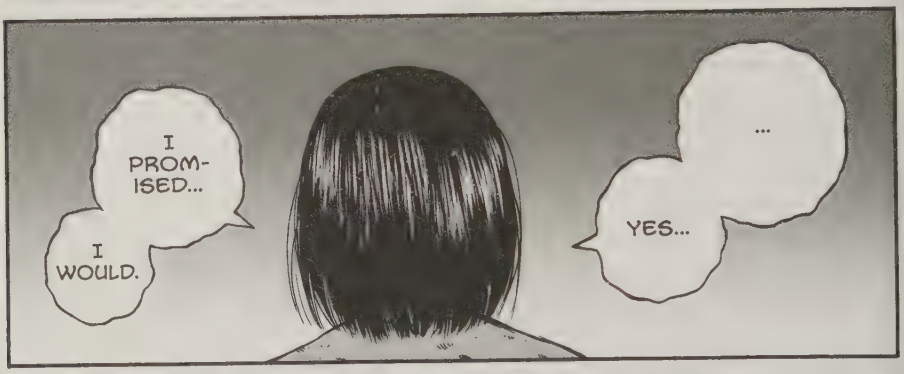
CON-SCIOUS, BUT HE CAN'T MOVE.

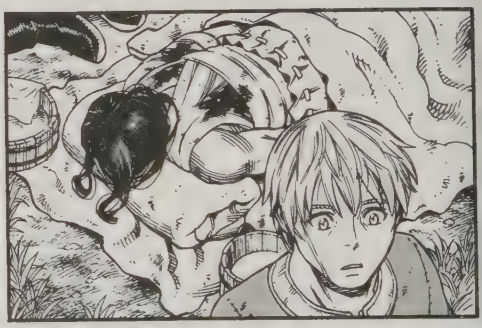
HE'S HURT BAD.

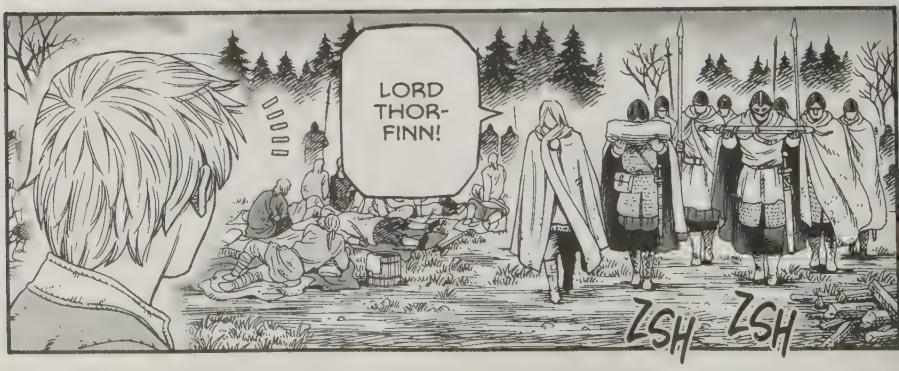
HOW IS SIGURD?

GRAB

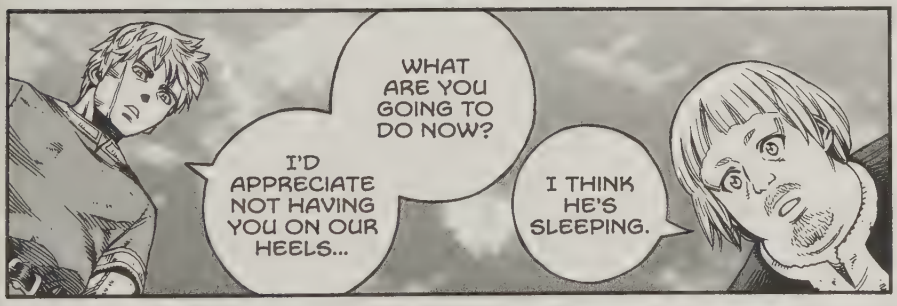

IS THAT RIGHT, GUDRID?


I PROM-ISED...
I WOULD.
...
YES...

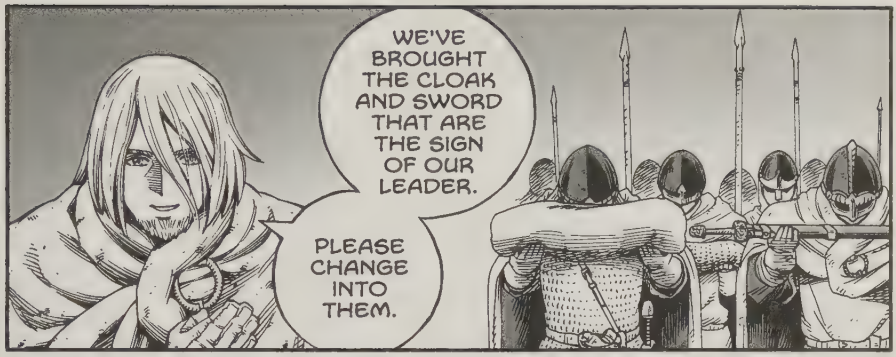


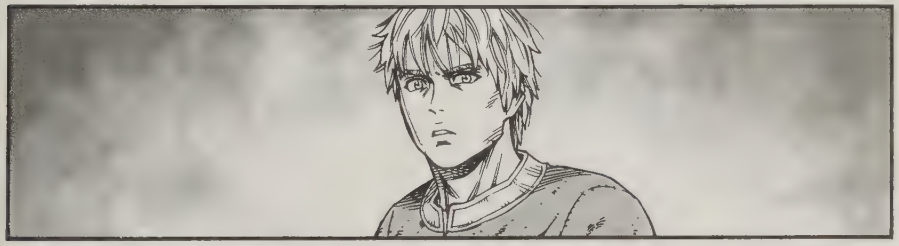

LORD THOR-FINN!
ZSH ZSH

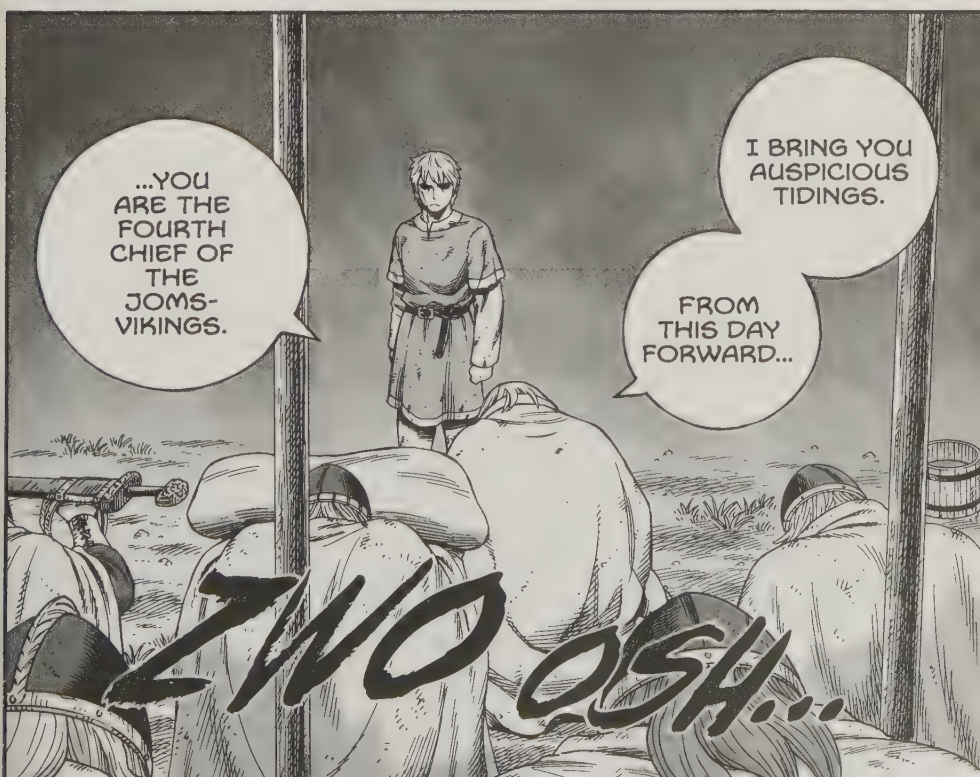
SIGGY, THORFINN IS HERE.
SIGGY?


WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
I'D APPRECIATE NOT HAVING YOU ON OUR HEELS...
I THINK HE'S SLEEPING.

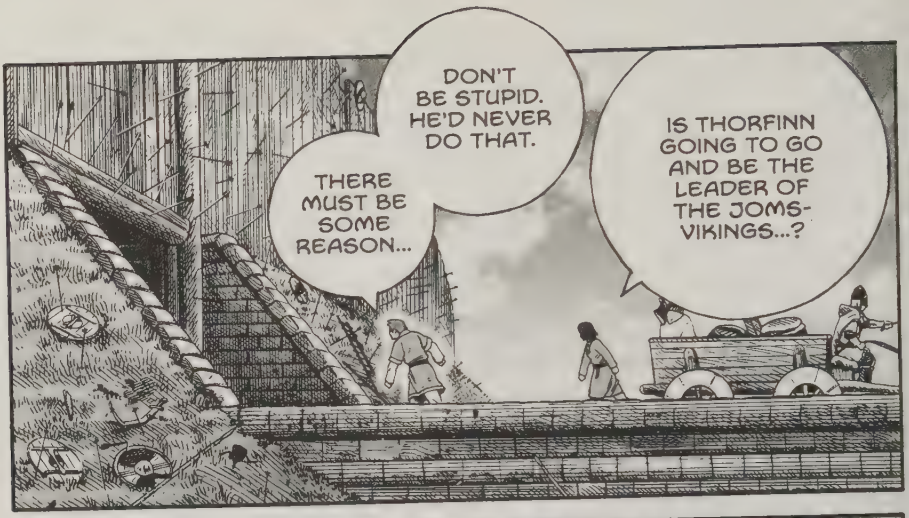
GUDRID PROMISED HIM...
...THAT SHE WOULD COME BACK WITH US.
WE'RE GOING BACK TO ICELAND.


WE'VE BROUGHT THE CLOAK AND SWORD THAT ARE THE SIGN OF OUR LEADER.
PLEASE CHANGE INTO THEM.

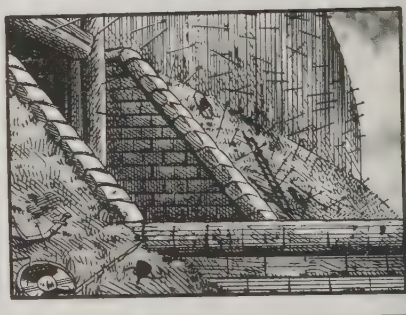


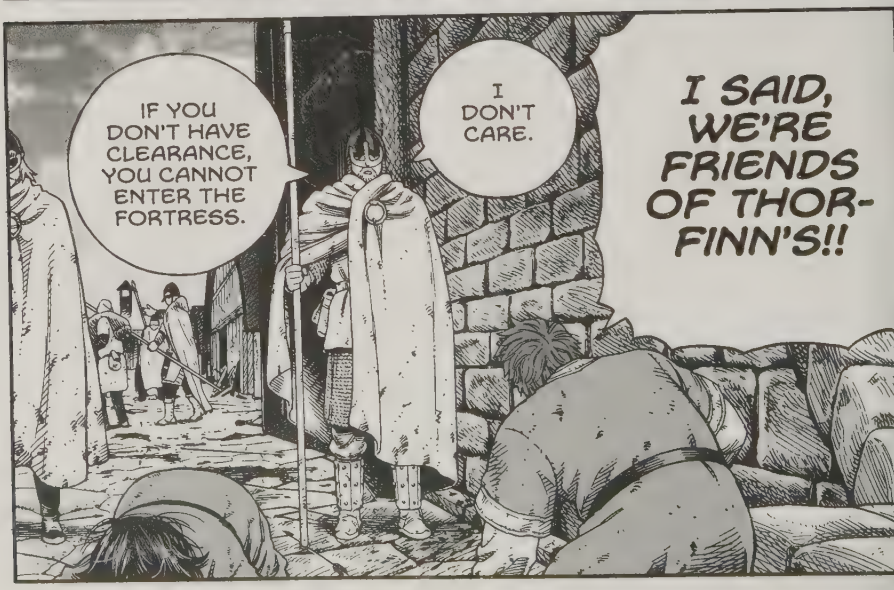

...YOU ARE THE FOURTH CHIEF OF THE JOMS-VIKINGS.
I BRING YOU AUSPICIOUS TIDINGS.
FROM THIS DAY FORWARD...
TWO OSH...

CHAPTER 159: WAR IN THE BALTIC (35)

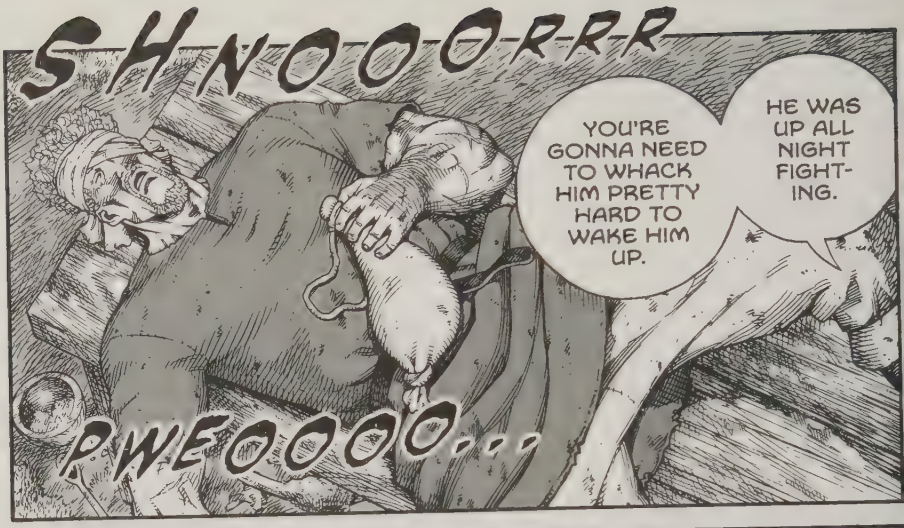

THERE MUST BE SOME REASON...
DON'T BE STUPID. HE'D NEVER DO THAT.
IS THORFINN GOING TO GO AND BE THE LEADER OF THE JOMS-VIKINGS...?

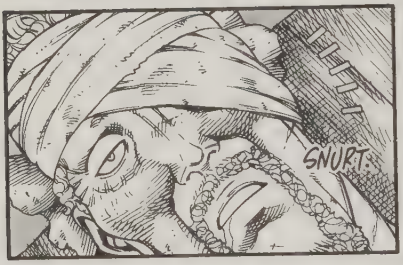
FLING
AAAH!
GAAH!

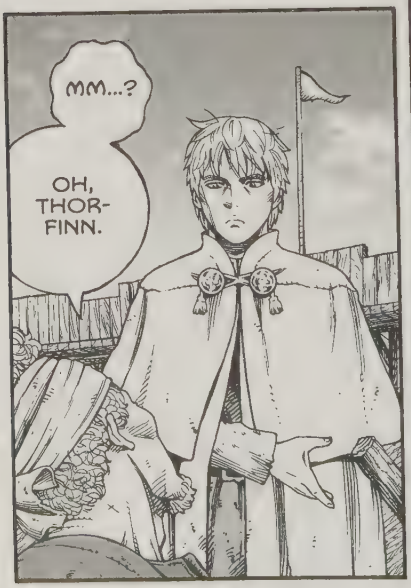



IF YOU DON'T HAVE CLEARANCE, YOU CANNOT ENTER THE FORTRESS.
I DON'T CARE.
I SAID, WE'RE FRIENDS OF THOR-FINN'S!!

AND?
WHAT ABOUT THORFINN?
HE LEFT...
HE LEFT?!
WITH THE LEADER'S CLOAK.

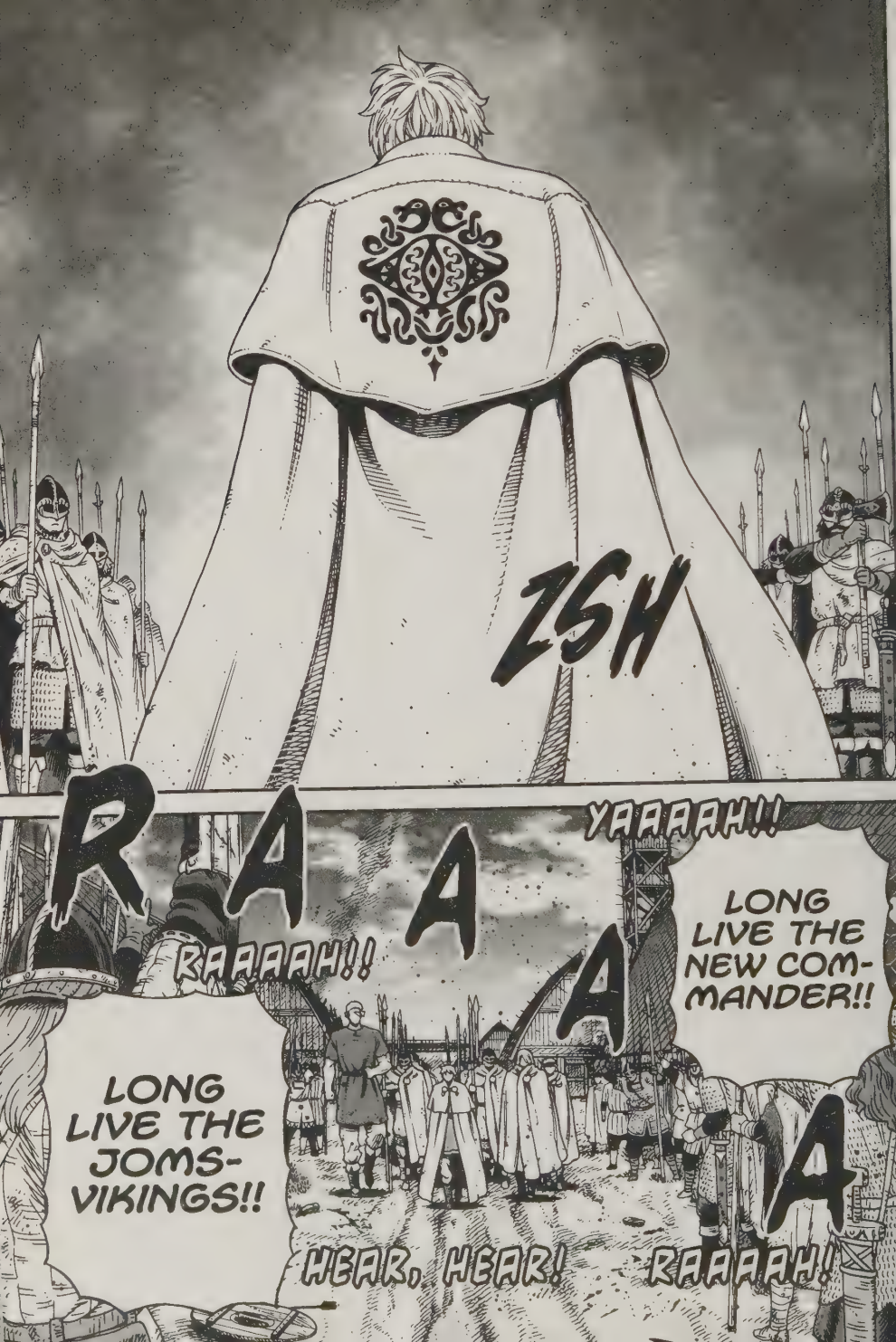

SHNOOORRR
YOU'RE GONNA NEED TO WHACK HIM PRETTY HARD TO WAKE HIM UP.
HE WAS UP ALL NIGHT FIGHT-ING.
PWEOOOO...

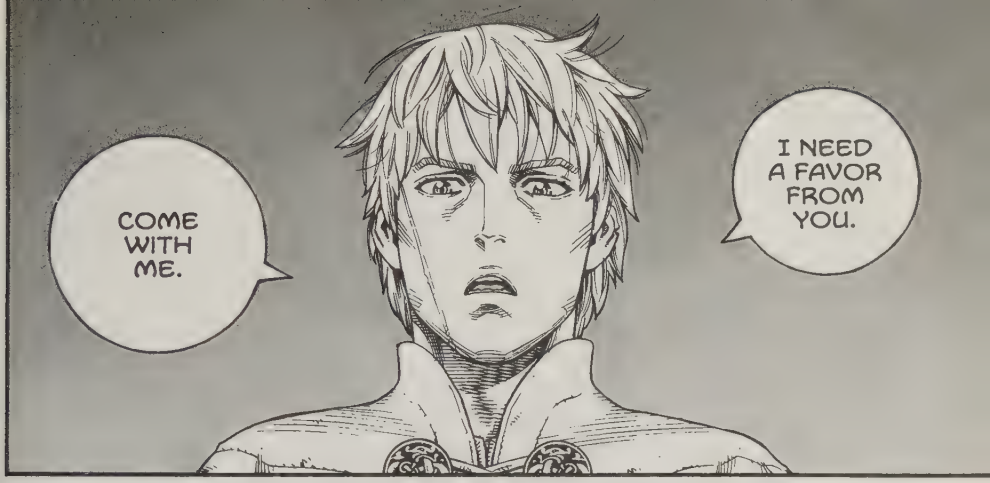

SNURT.


MM...?
OH, THOR-FINN.

SWISH
GLOCK

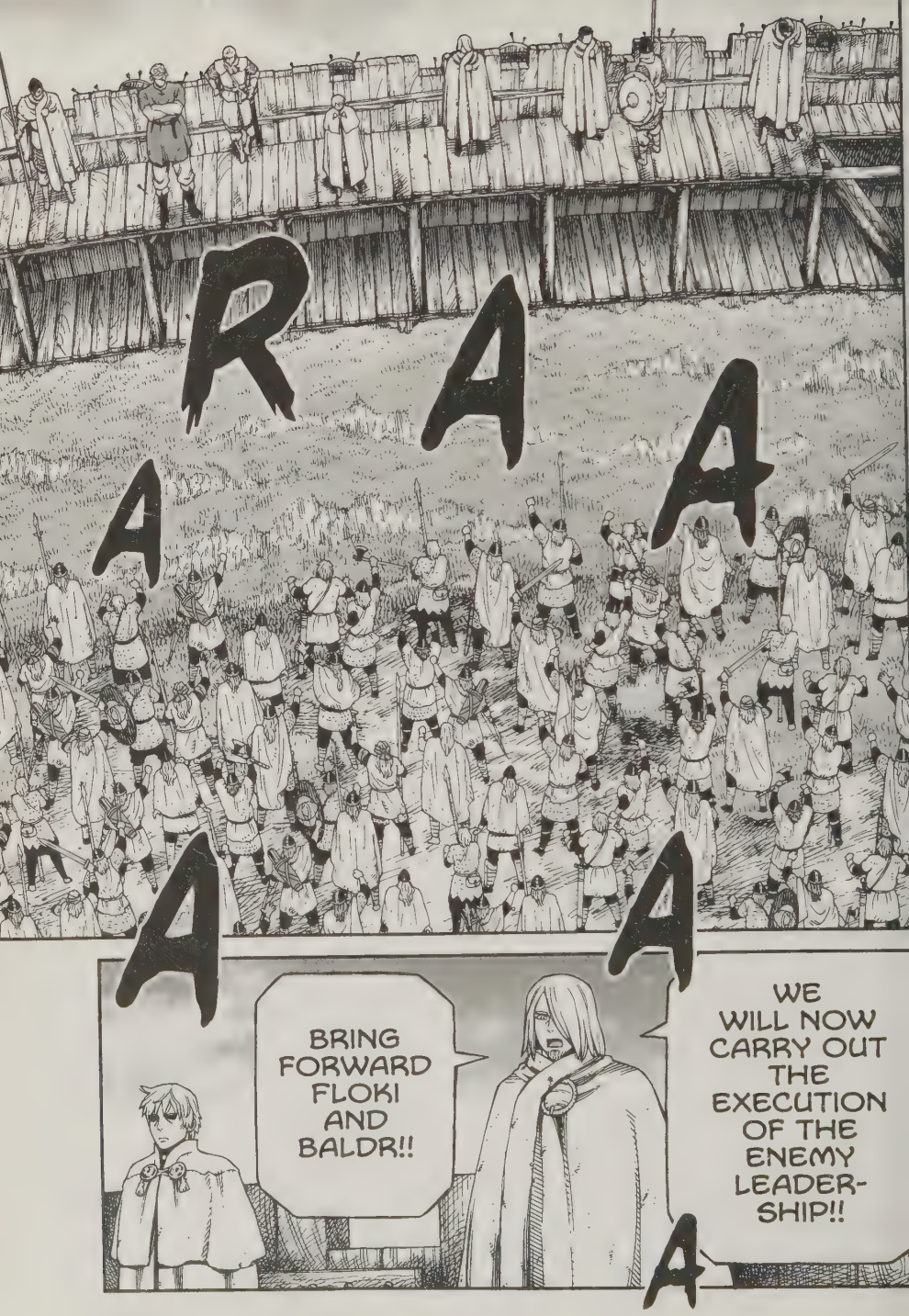
HE NO LONGER HAS THE TIME TO WASTE ON COMMON RABBLE LIKE YOURSELVES. BEGONE FROM HERE.
LORD THORFINN IS NOW OUR CHIEFTAIN, AND MASTER OF JOMS-BORG.
SHNOOORRR
PHWEEEEE...KAKAKAK

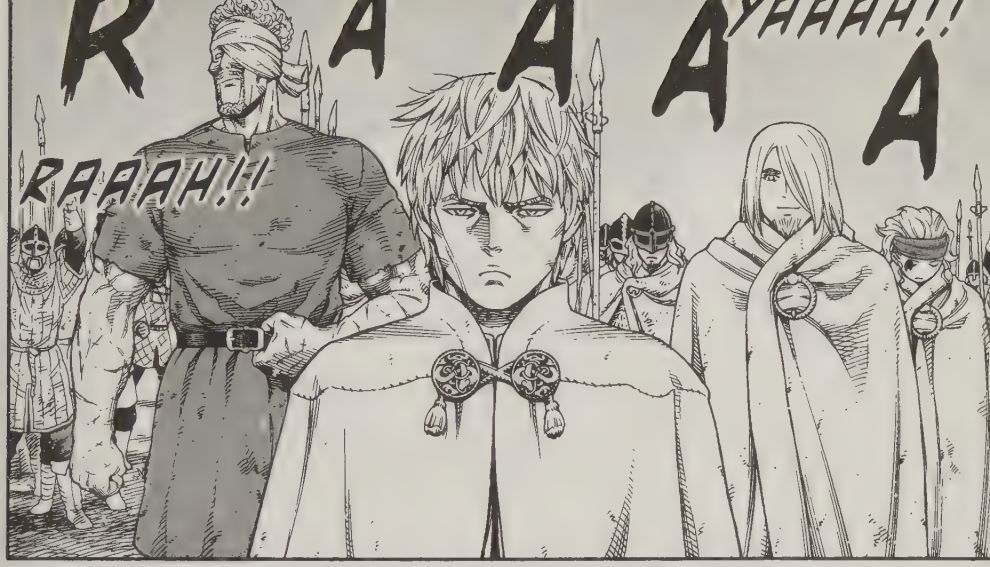

ZSH
RA
A
A
A
YAAAAH!!
RAAAAH!!
LONG LIVE THE NEW COMMANDER!!
LONG LIVE THE JOMSVIKINGS!!
HEAR, HEAR!
RAAAAH!

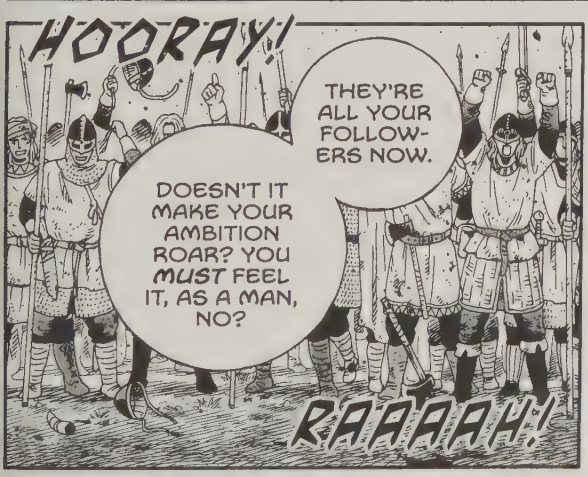

COME WITH ME.
I NEED A FAVOR FROM YOU.

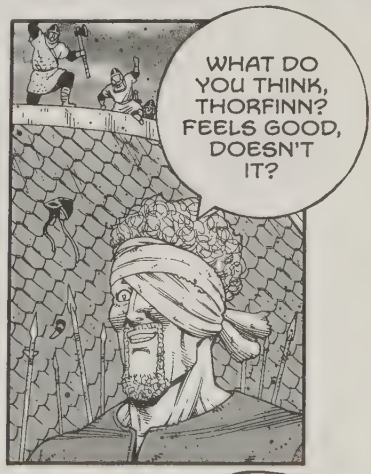
SWOOSH...

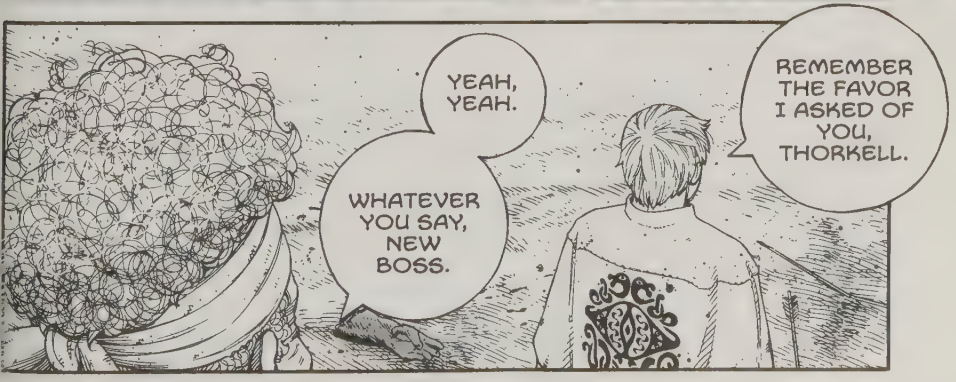
ZSHH

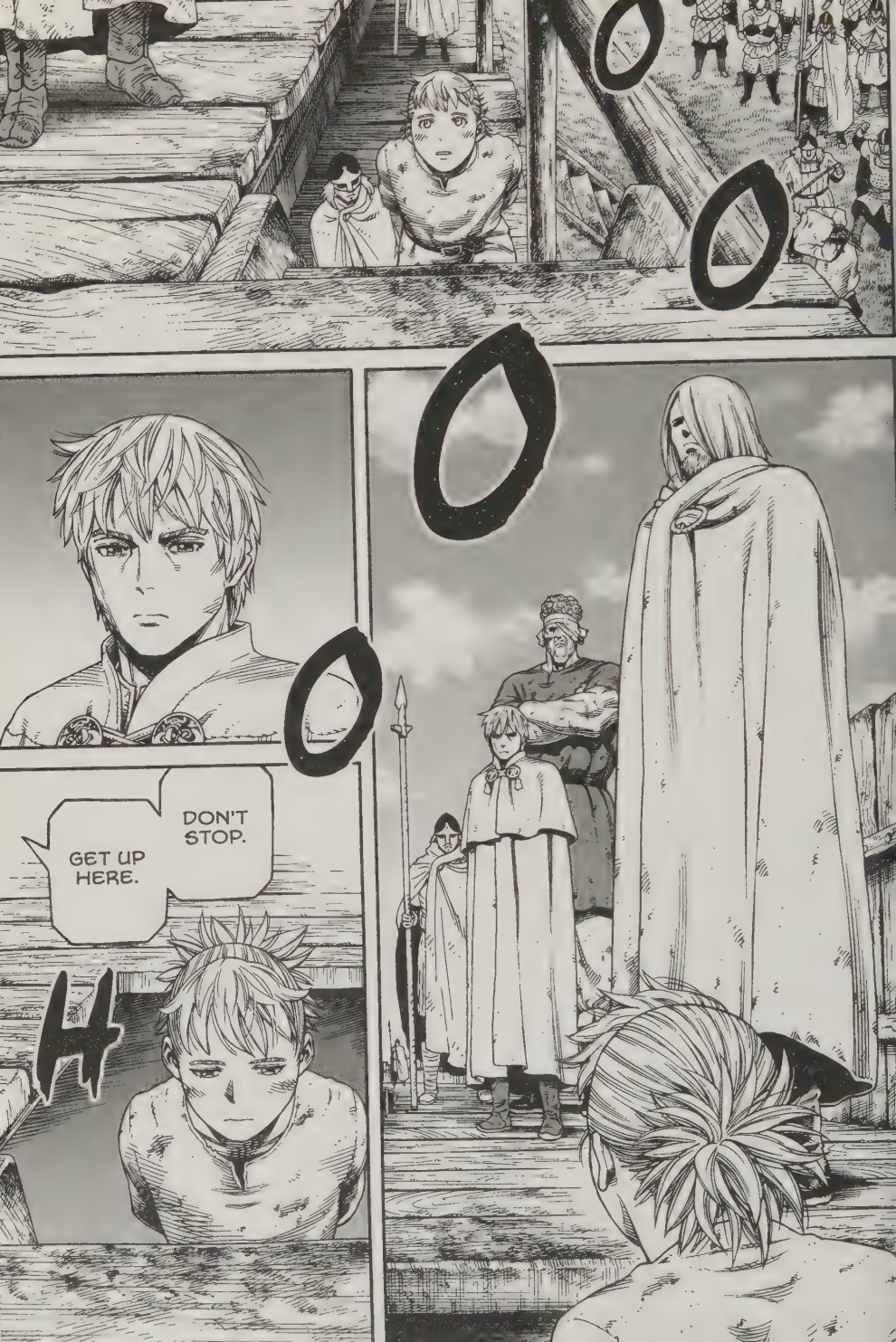

RAAAAA
BRING FORWARD FLOKI AND BALDR!!
WE WILL NOW CARRY OUT THE EXECUTION OF THE ENEMY LEADER-SHIP!!

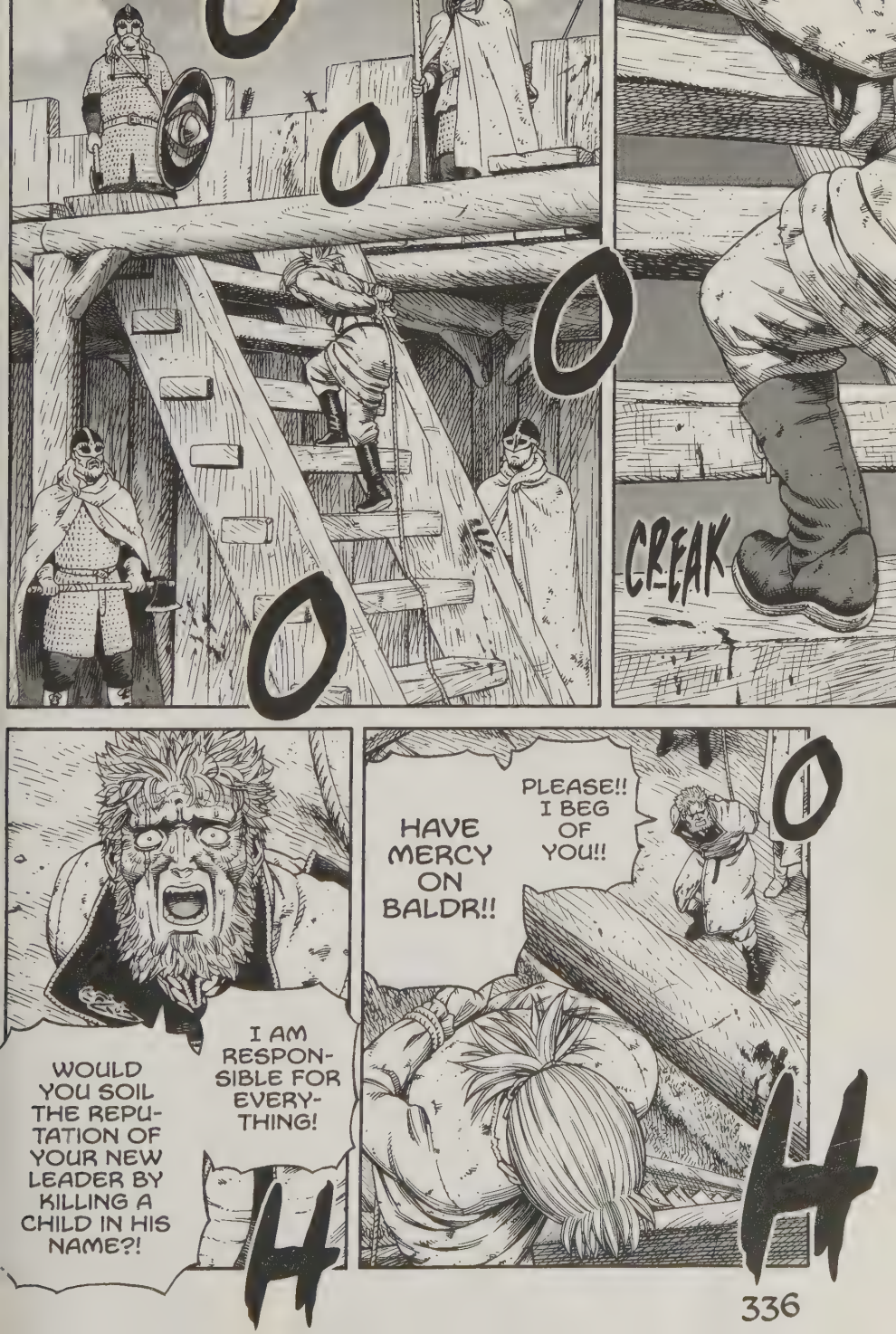

R A A A A
YAAAA!!
RAAAH!!


HOORAY!
THEY'RE ALL YOUR FOLLOWERS NOW.
DOESN'T IT MAKE YOUR AMBITION ROAR? YOU *MUST* FEEL IT, AS A MAN, NO?
RAAAAH!

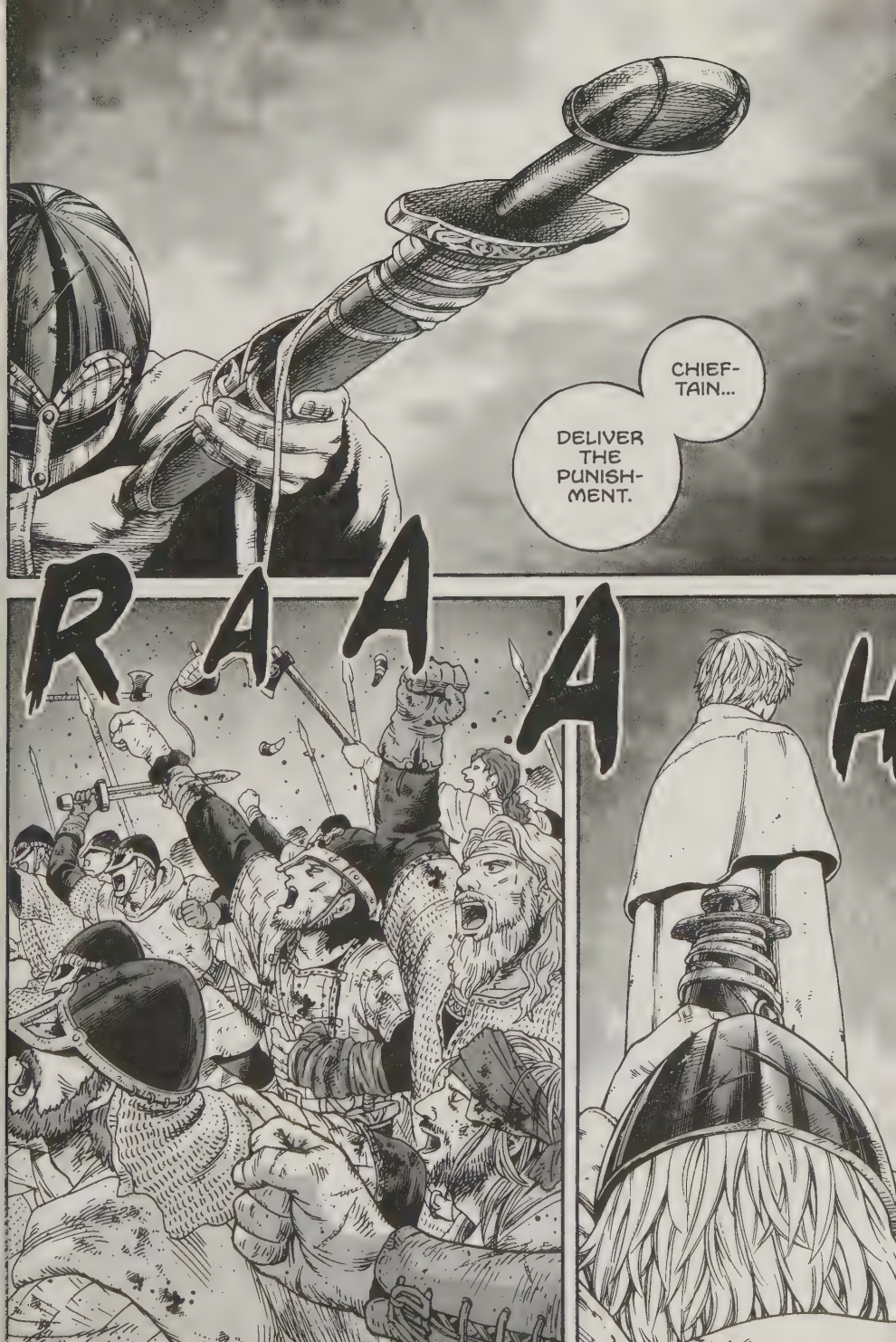

WHAT DO YOU THINK, THORFINN? FEELS GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

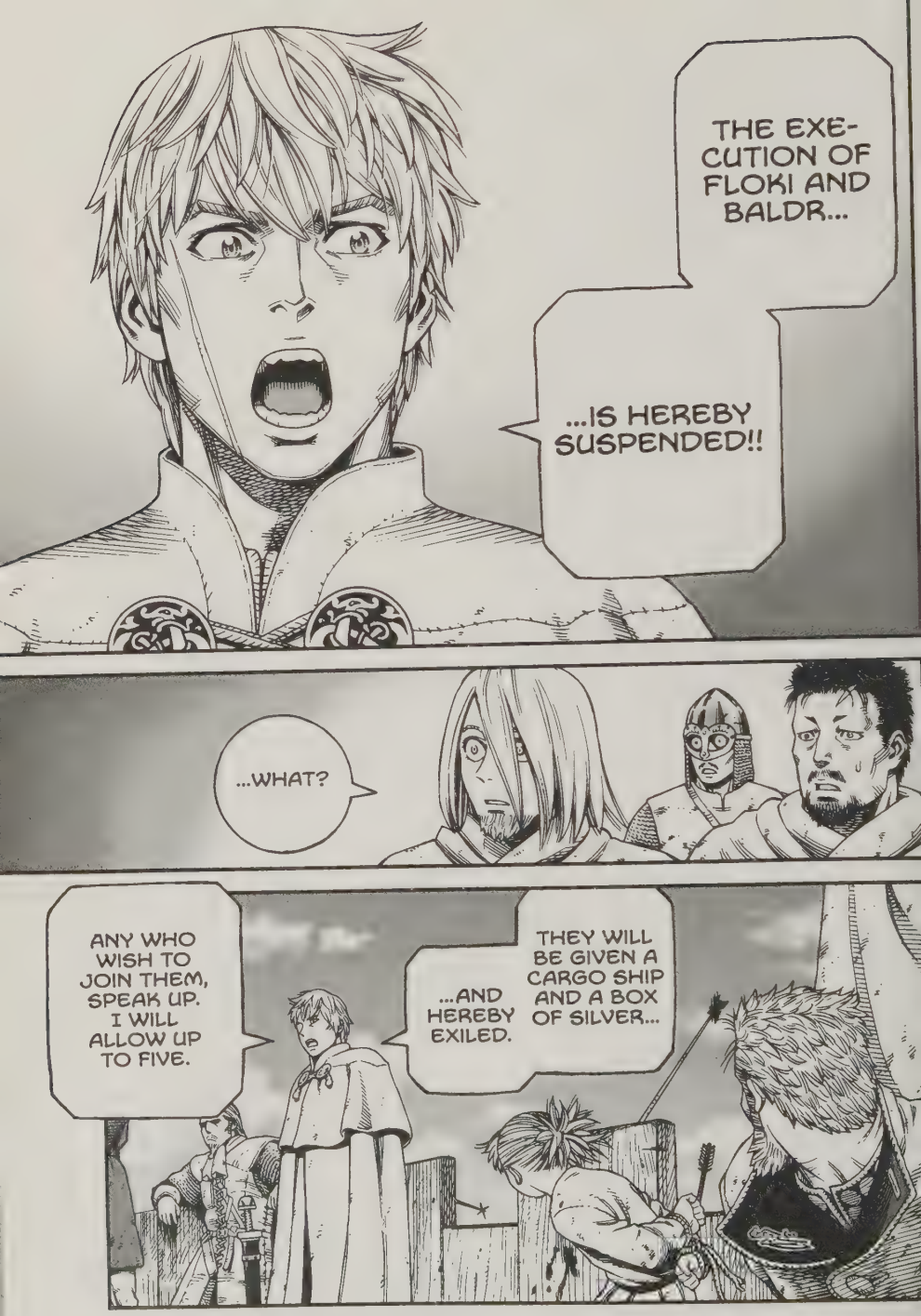

REMEMBER THE FAVOR I ASKED OF YOU, THORKELL.
YEAH, YEAH.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, NEW BOSS.


GET UP HERE.
DON'T STOP.
H

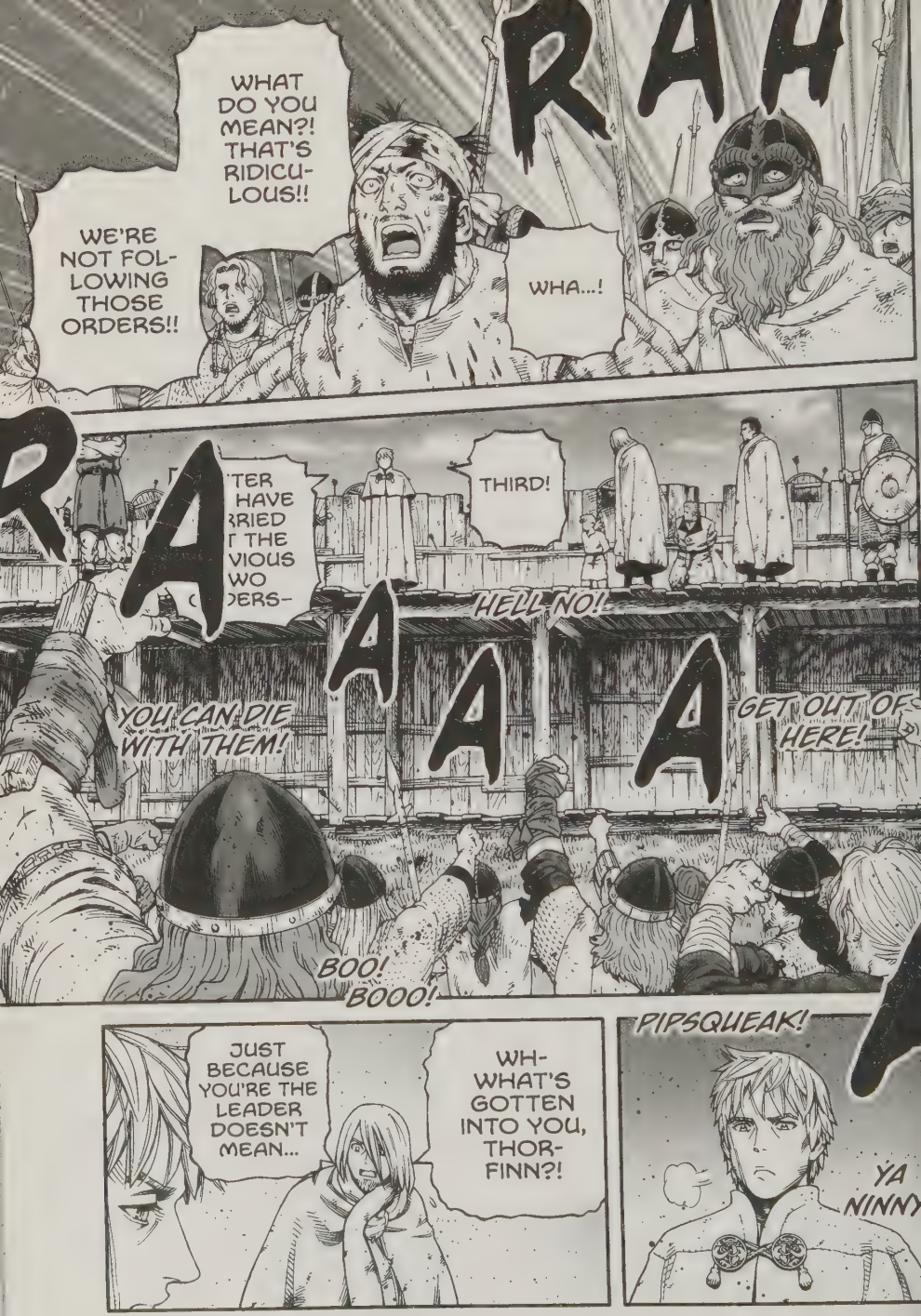

CREAK
PLEASE!! I BEG OF YOU!!
HAVE MERCY ON BALDR!!
I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING!
WOULD YOU SOIL THE REPUTATION OF YOUR NEW LEADER BY KILLING A CHILD IN HIS NAME?!

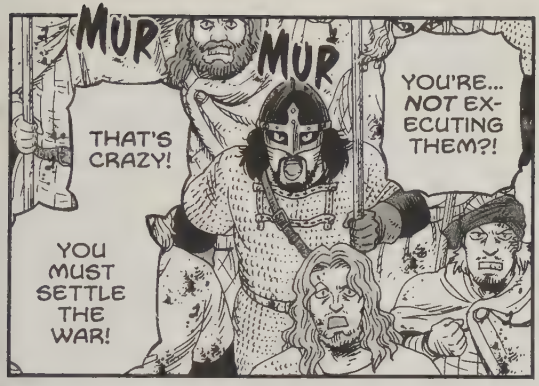
R
A
A
A
H
H
KILL THEM!!
AVENGE THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN VAGN!!
SERVES 'EM RIGHT!
CUT OFF THEIR HEADS!!
GYA HA HA HA!
MAKE 'EM BLEED!
SWOO...
DIE, FLOKI!
QUIET DOWN, WARRIORS!!
...IRON-CLAD ORDERS!!
I WILL NOW GIVE YOU...

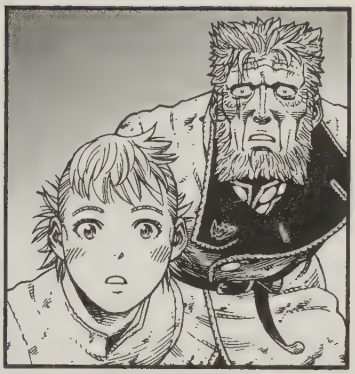

CHIEF-TAIN...
DELIVER THE PUNISH-MENT.
RAAA
A


THE EXE-CUTION OF FLOKI AND BALDR...
...IS HEREBY SUSPENDED!!
...WHAT?
ANY WHO WISH TO JOIN THEM, SPEAK UP. I WILL ALLOW UP TO FIVE.
...AND HEREBY EXILED.
THEY WILL BE GIVEN A CARGO SHIP AND A BOX OF SILVER...

WHA?
THE FIRST ORDER!!
THERE ARE THREE IN TOTAL! LISTEN CARE-FULLY!!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! THAT'S RIDICULOUS!!
WE'RE NOT FOLLOWING THOSE ORDERS!!
RAH
WHA...!
THIRD!
HELL NO!
YOU CAN DIE WITH THEM!
GET OUT OF HERE!
BOO! BOOO!
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE THE LEADER DOESN'T MEAN...
WH-WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, THORFINN?!
PIPSQUEAK!
YA NINNY





ONCE YOU HAVE REMOVED ALL VALUABLES FROM THE FORTRESS, ALL BUILDINGS, WALLS, AND WEAPONS ARE TO BE DISMANTLED! THE MOAT WILL BE FILLED IN!

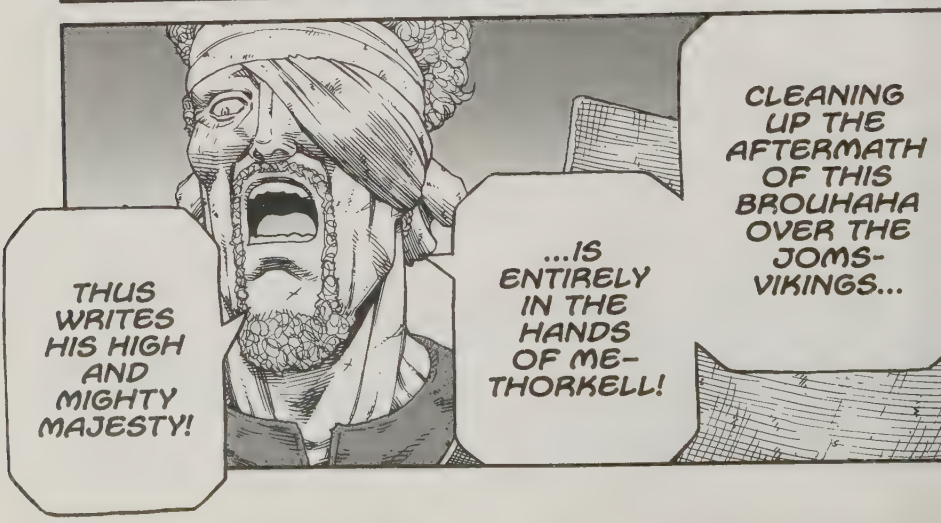
JOMSBORG WILL BE ABANDONED!!

THE SLAVES WILL BE SET FREE, WITH EACH OF THEM GIVEN TEN POUNDS OF SILVER AND SENT BACK TO THEIR HOMELANDS!

THERE.

EEENG...

I'LL SPARE YOU THE BORING DETAILS AND GET RIGHT TO THE POINT OF IT!
IT CONTAINS ORDERS TO ME, FROM KING CANUTE.
I HAVE A SHEET OF PAPER HERE.


THUS WRITES HIS HIGH AND MIGHTY MAJESTY!
...IS ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF ME- THORKELL!
CLEANING UP THE AFTERMATH OF THIS BROUHAHA OVER THE JOMS-VIKINGS...

WHUPPPPPP
YAAA
KILL HIM!
THOR-KELL.
GO AHEAD.
ALL RIGHT, BUT YOU OWE ME ONE.
CUT OFF THEIR HEADS!
SHUT YER MISER-ABLE YAPS, YOU BRIG-ANDS!!!!

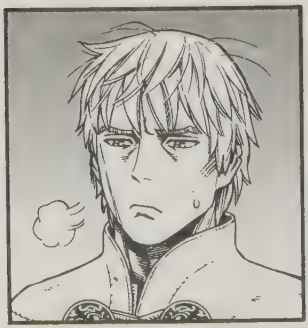
THEREFORE, THE ORDERS GIVEN TO YOU BY YOUR NEW COMMANDER, THORFINN, ARE ESSENTIALLY *MY* ORDERS!!

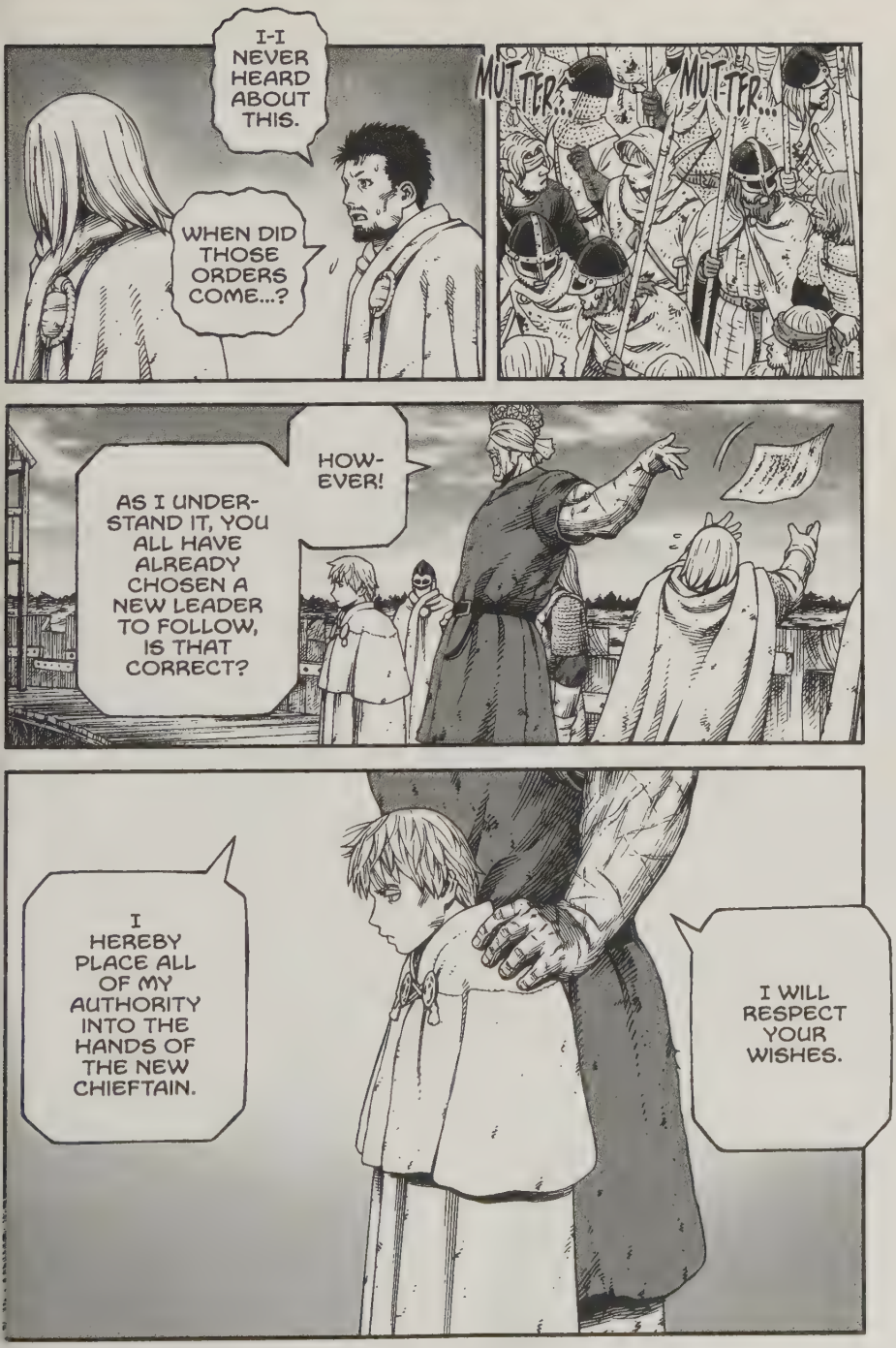
IN OTHER WORDS!!

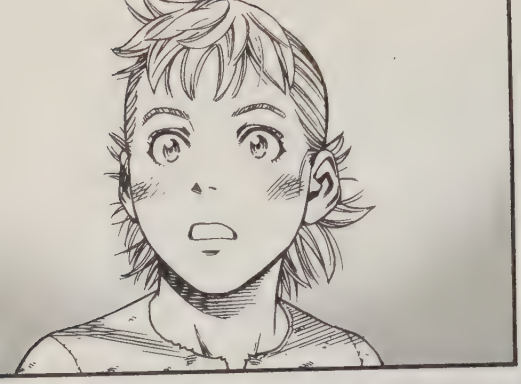
THEY ARE THE ORDERS OF KING CANUTE, CONQUEROR OF THE NORTH SEA!!

IF SO, THEN SHUT UP AND LISTEN TO YOUR ORDERS!

DID THAT GET THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULLS?



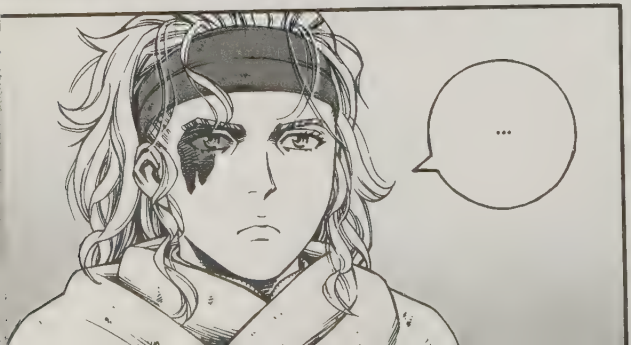

I-I NEVER HEARD ABOUT THIS.
WHEN DID THOSE ORDERS COME...?
MUT-TER...
MUT-TER...
HOW-EVER!
AS I UNDER-STAND IT, YOU ALL HAVE ALREADY CHOSEN A NEW LEADER TO FOLLOW, IS THAT CORRECT?
I HEREBY PLACE ALL OF MY AUTHORITY INTO THE HANDS OF THE NEW CHIEFTAIN.
I WILL RESPECT YOUR WISHES.

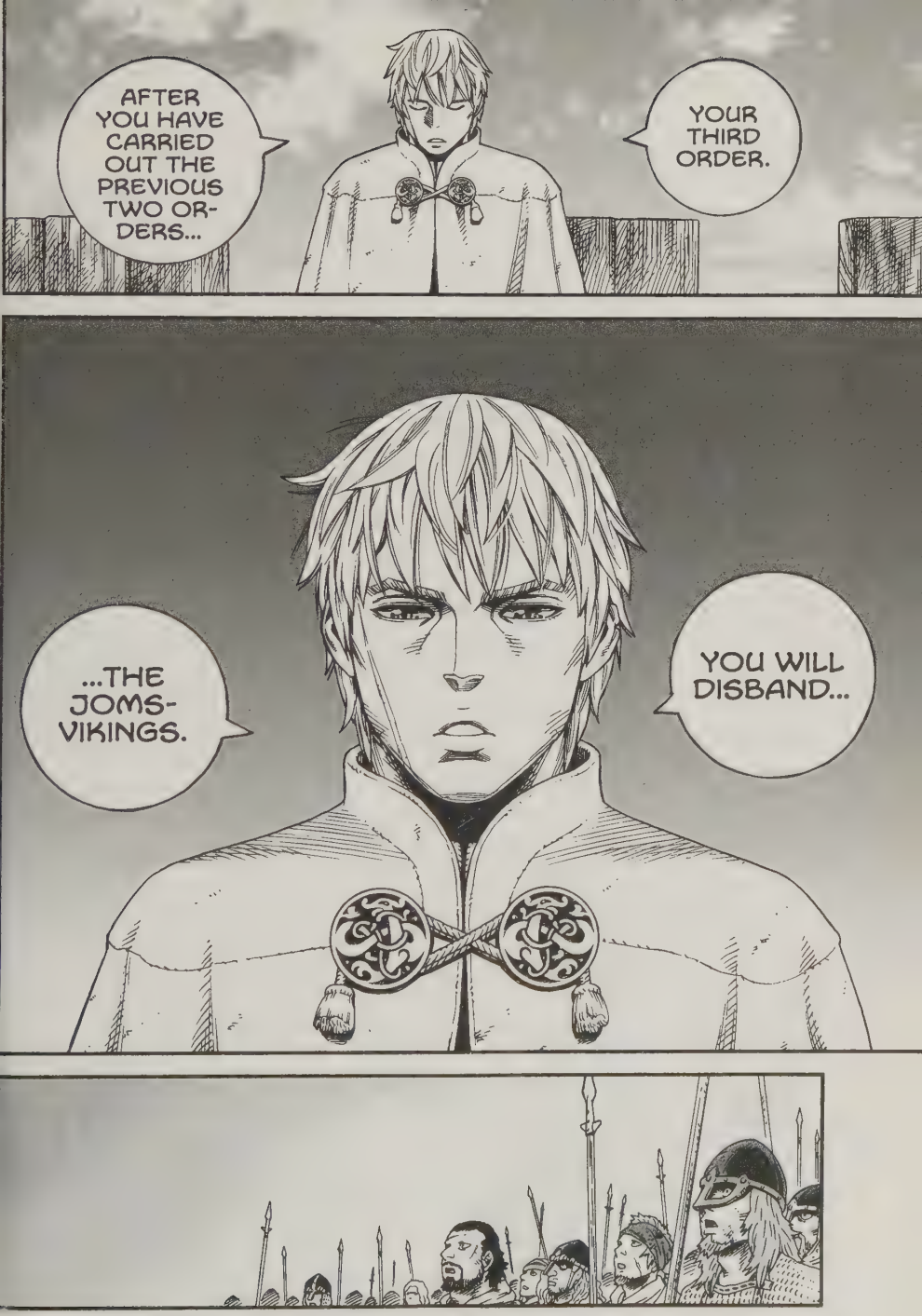


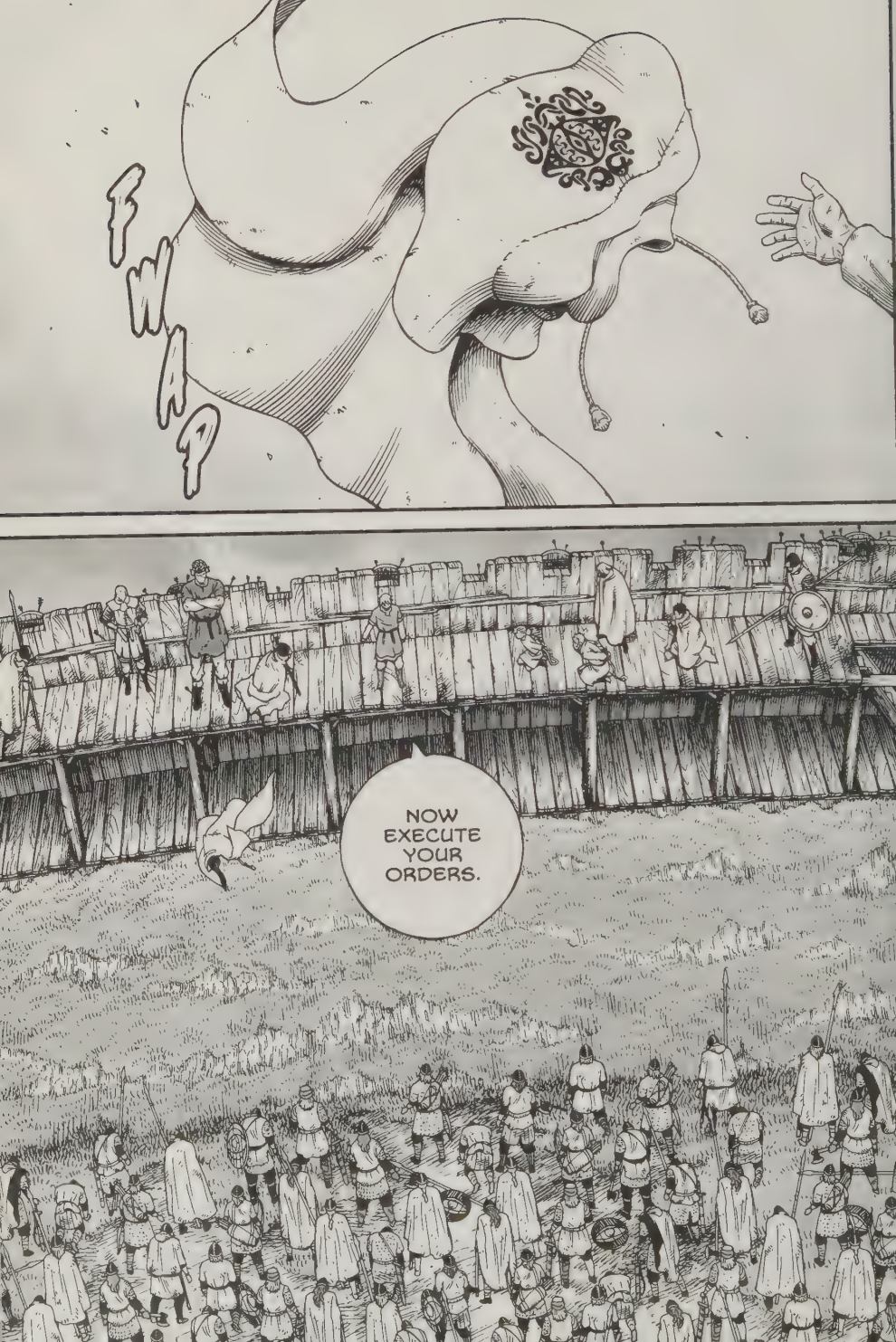
SPLIT THE REMAINING WAR CHEST AMONG EVERY SURVIVING WARRIOR...

...AND TAKE YOUR SHARE BACK HOME.

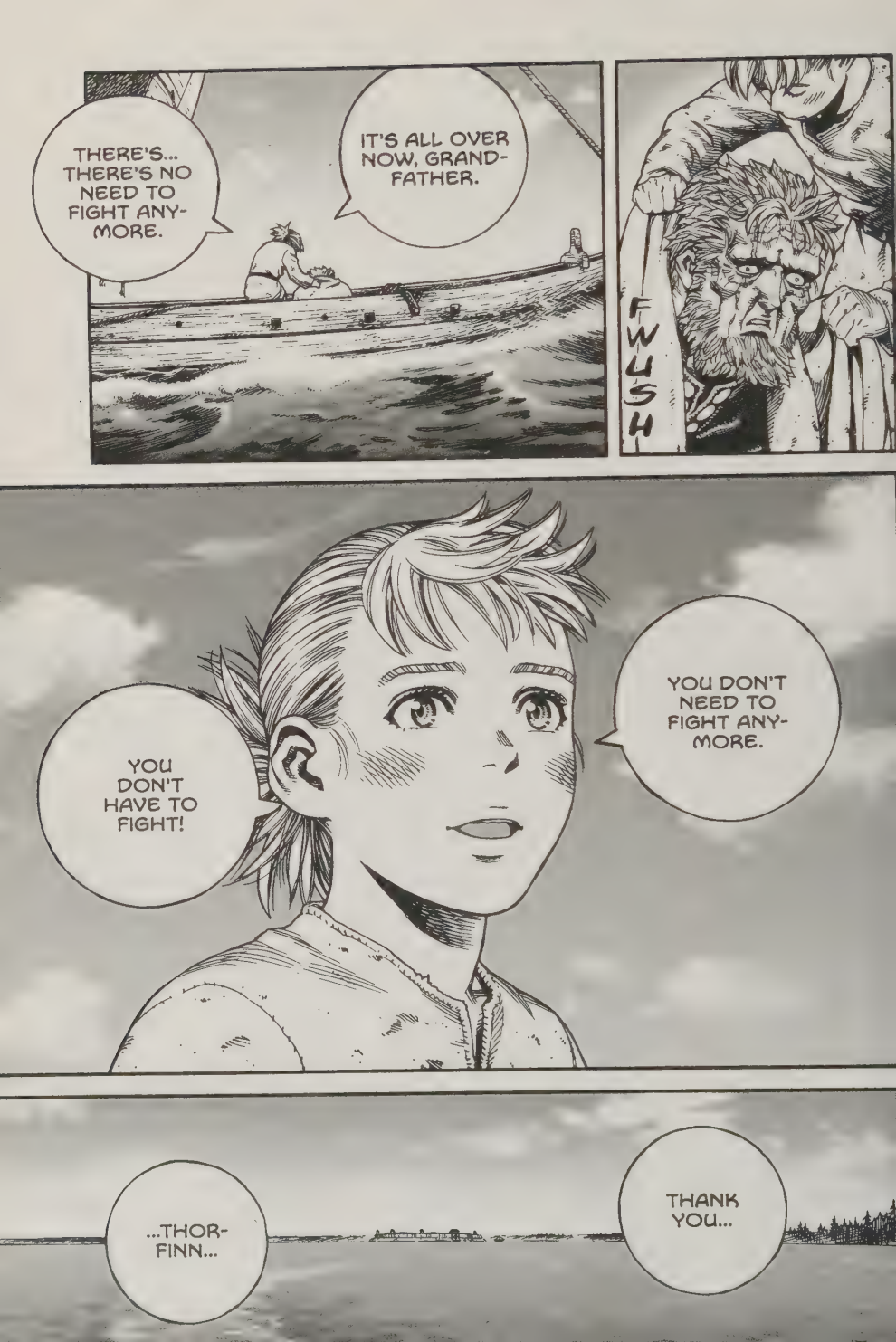
FRIEND OR FOE, IT DOESN'T MATTER.

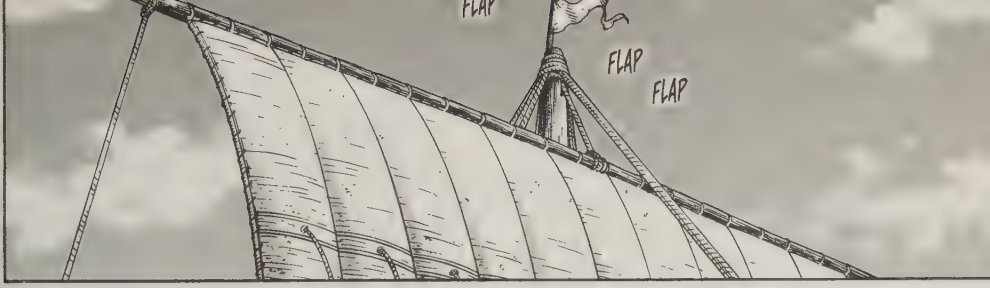



AFTER YOU HAVE CARRIED OUT THE PREVIOUS TWO ORDERS...
YOUR THIRD ORDER.
...THE JOMSVIKINGS.
YOU WILL DISBAND...

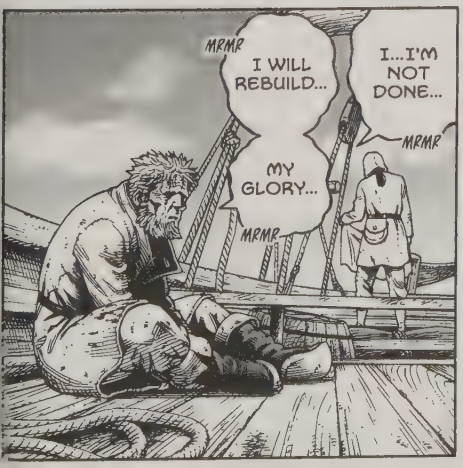

FWAP
NOW EXECUTE YOUR ORDERS.

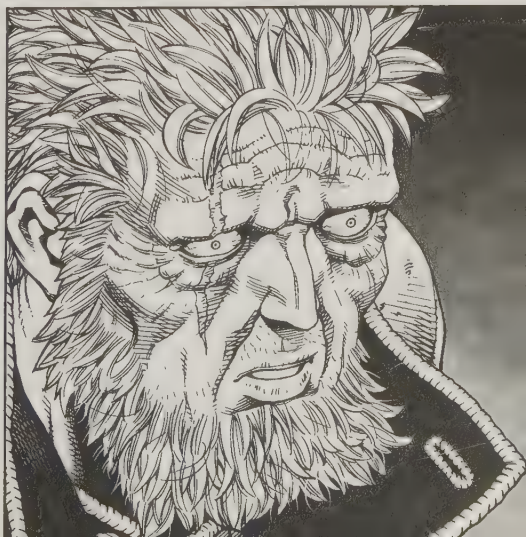
SEND ALONG THE WORD TO THE KING FOR ME, THORKELL.
IF YOU HAVE NOWHERE LEFT TO GO, SERVE KING CANUTE INSTEAD.
CLANK
THUMP
...THAT IS ALL.

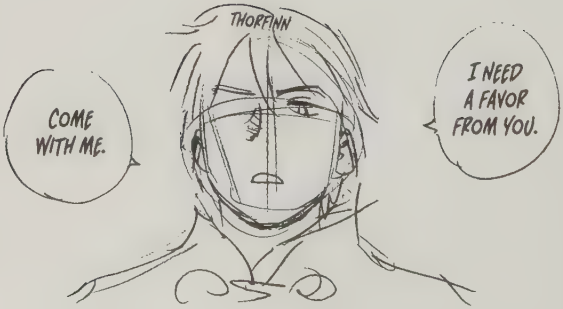

THERE'S... THERE'S NO NEED TO FIGHT ANY-MORE.
IT'S ALL OVER NOW, GRAND-FATHER.
FWUSH
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT!
YOU DON'T NEED TO FIGHT ANY-MORE.
...THOR-FINN...
THANK YOU...

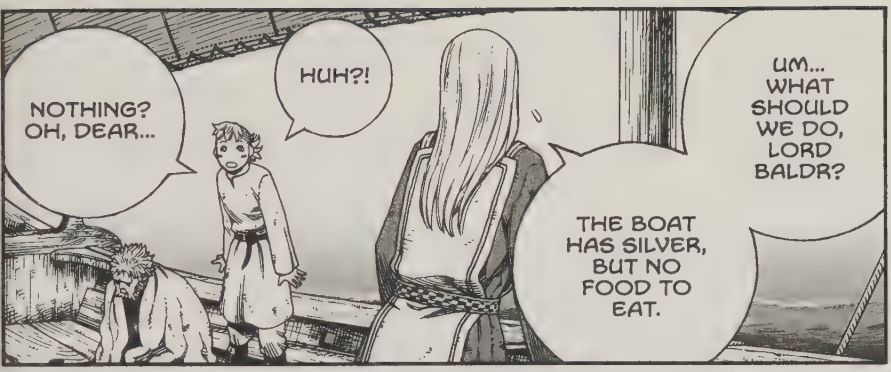

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP

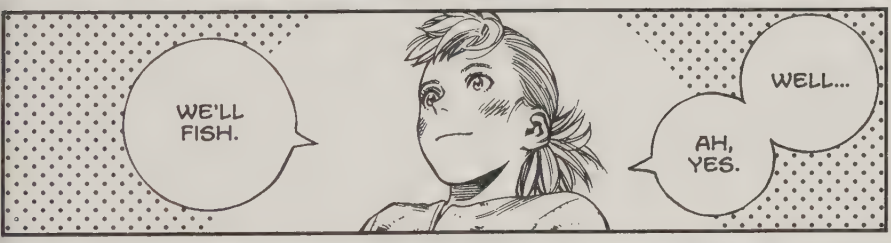
FSHH...

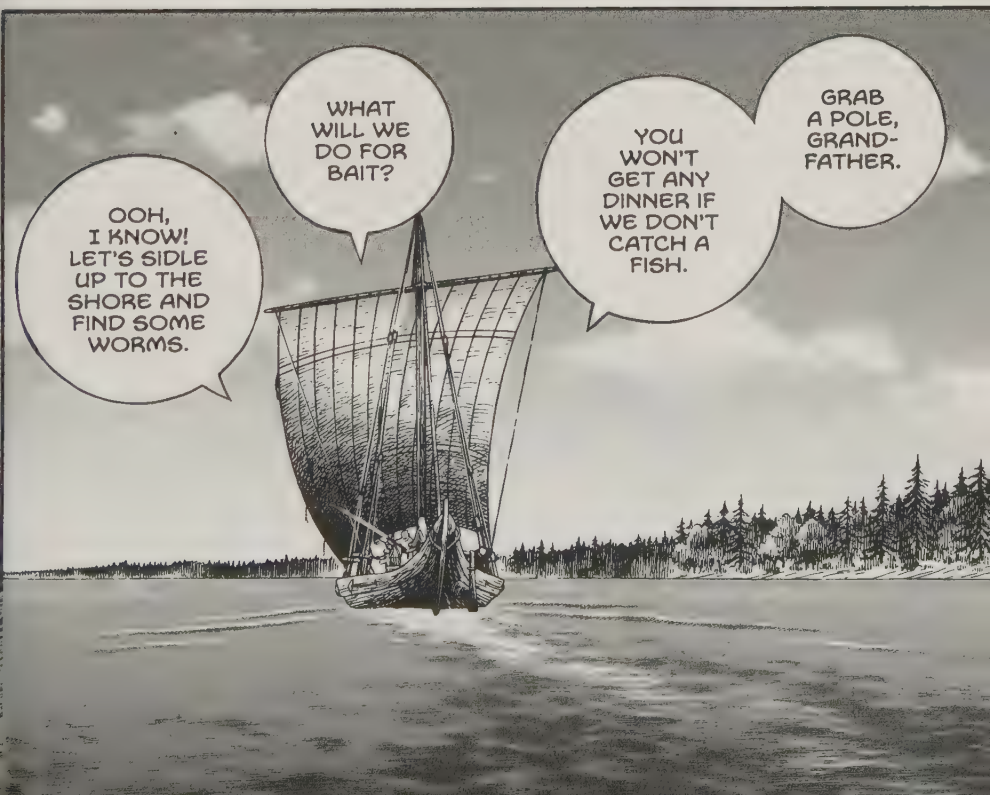

MRMR
I WILL REBUILD...
I...I'M NOT DONE...
MRMR
MY GLORY...
MRMR

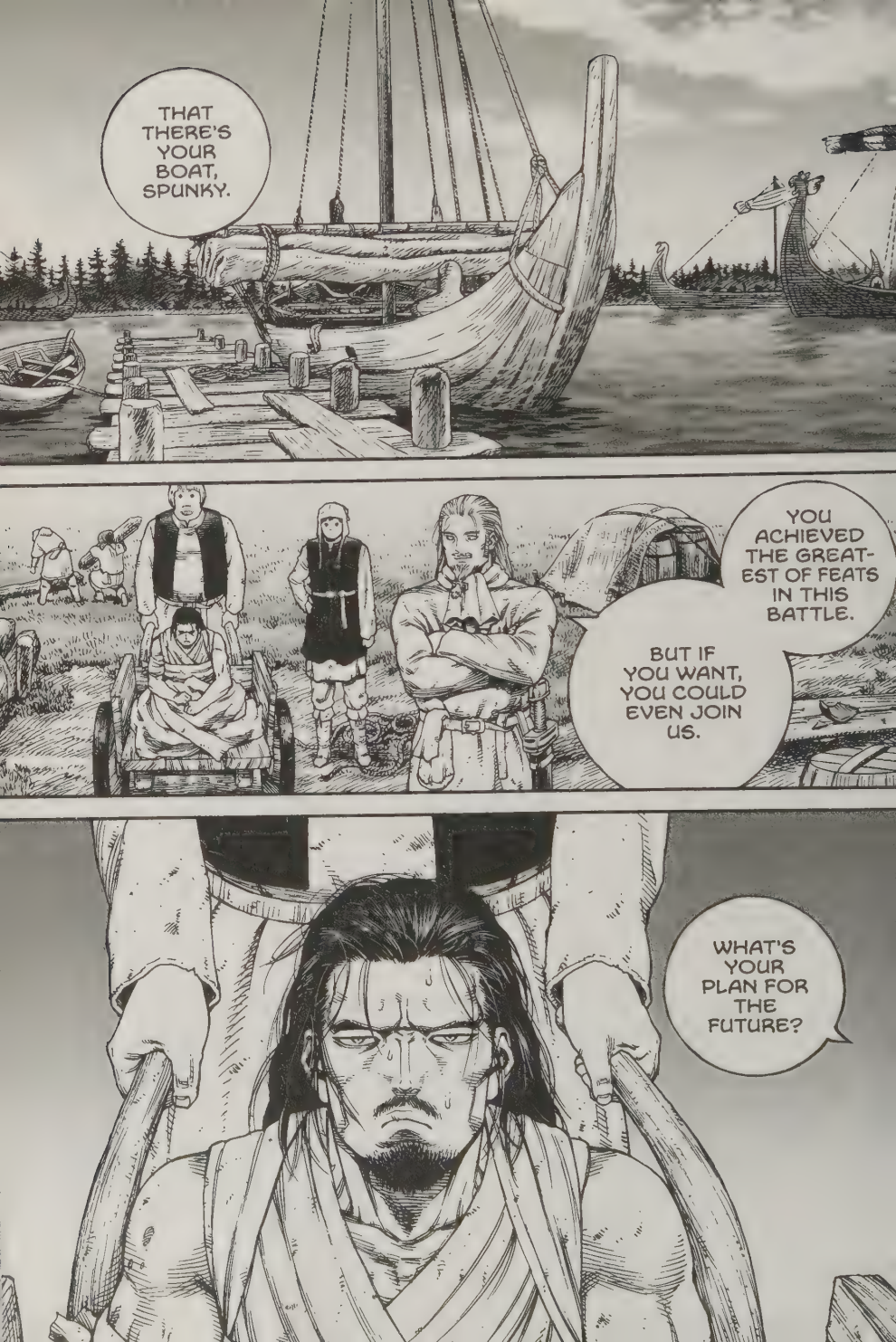



THORFINN
COME WITH ME.
I NEED A FAVOR FROM YOU.


NOTHING? OH, DEAR...
HUH?!
UM... WHAT SHOULD WE DO, LORD BALDR?
THE BOAT HAS SILVER, BUT NO FOOD TO EAT.

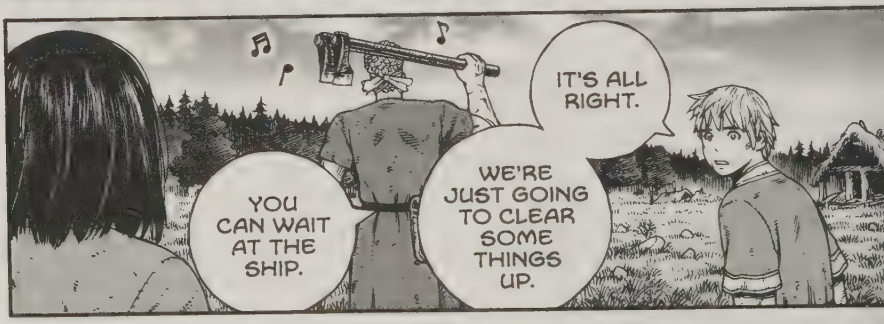

WE'LL FISH.
AH, YES.
WELL...


OOH, I KNOW! LET'S SIDLE UP TO THE SHORE AND FIND SOME WORMS.
WHAT WILL WE DO FOR BAIT?
YOU WON'T GET ANY DINNER IF WE DON'T CATCH A FISH.
GRAB A POLE, GRAND-FATHER.


THAT THERE'S YOUR BOAT, SPUNKY.
YOU ACHIEVED THE GREATEST OF FEATS IN THIS BATTLE.
BUT IF YOU WANT, YOU COULD EVEN JOIN US.
WHAT'S YOUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE?

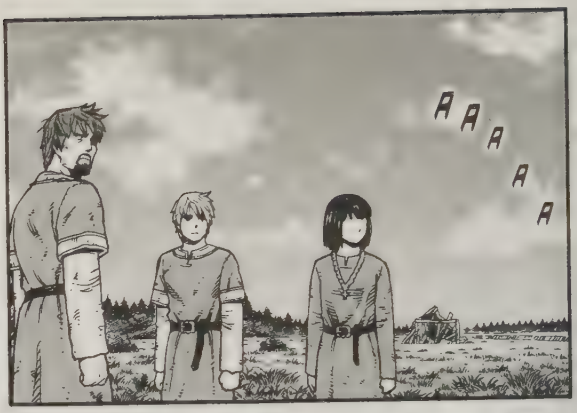
FSH
FSH

CRAK
FSH
FSH


YOU CAN WAIT AT THE SHIP.
WE'RE JUST GOING TO CLEAR SOME THINGS UP.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

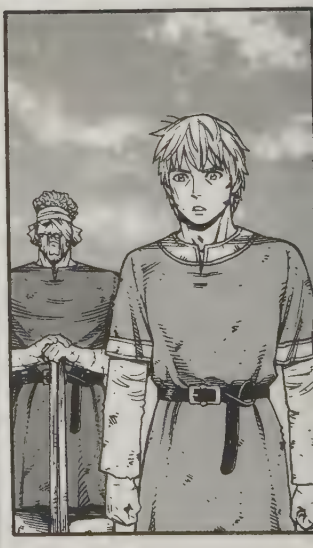
YOU CAN'T KEEP ATTEMPTING TO SOLVE EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN EVERY TIME.
TALK TO US!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE GOING TO TRY THAT AGAIN!

CHAPTER 160: WAR IN THE BALTIC (36)

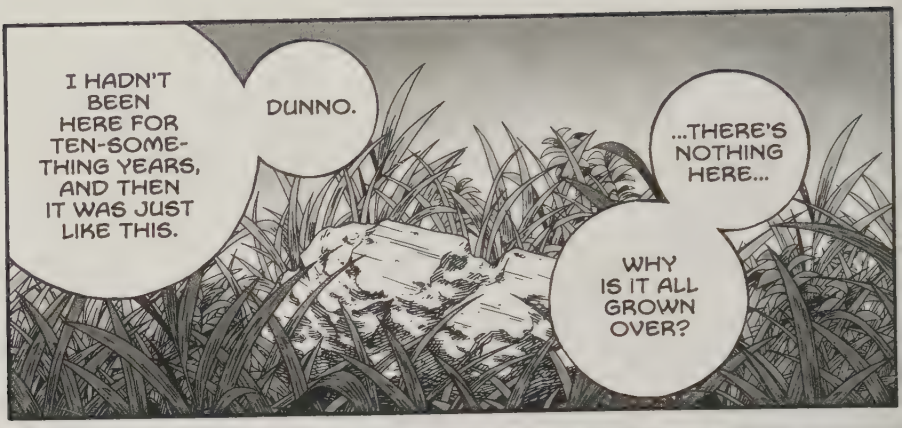

AAAAA

OR I SHOULD SAY, FOUND THE GENERAL AREA.
HERE IT IS, THORFINN! FOUND IT!

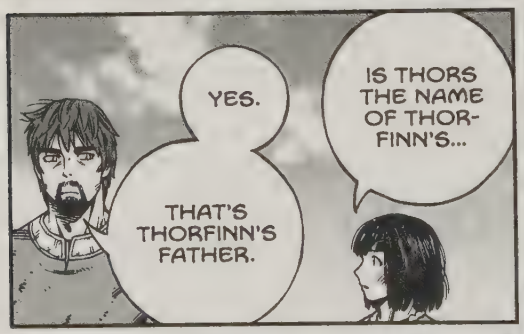
THIS IS IT...?
YOU BET.

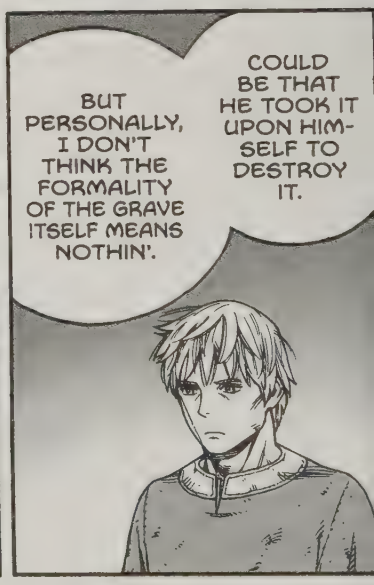


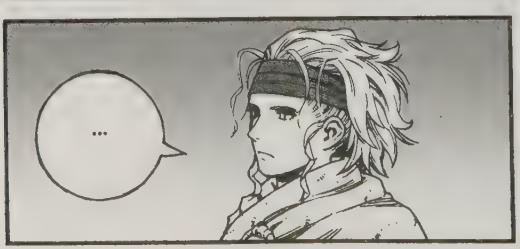
AAAAA
WAIT, THOR-KELL!
I HEAR FIGHTING FROM IN-SIDE THE WALLS.
...
OF COURSE THEY ARE. YOU KNOW THEY'RE NOT THE TYPE TO OBEY ORDERS LIKE THOSE.
YES. BECAUSE THEY'RE FIGHTING.
THEY'VE GOT TO GET IT OUT OF THEIR SYSTEM.
BUT THEY'RE ALL EXHAUSTED FROM THE BATTLE BEFORE THIS.
A FEW OF THEM DIE, AND THEY'LL GIVE UP SOON ENOUGH.


I HADN'T BEEN HERE FOR TEN-SOMETHING YEARS, AND THEN IT WAS JUST LIKE THIS.
DUNNO.
...THERE'S NOTHING HERE...
WHY IS IT ALL GROWN OVER?

NOW THAT I REMEMBER IT, FLOKI WAS AGAINST BUILDING THORS A GRAVE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HIS FIRST MEMORIAL, WE SENT OUT HIS SHIP TO SEA.
THE SECOND TIME, WE BURIED HIM.


YES.
IS THORS THE NAME OF THORFINN'S...
THAT'S THORFINN'S FATHER.


BUT PERSONALLY, I DON'T THINK THE FORMALITY OF THE GRAVE ITSELF MEANS NOTHIN'.
COULD BE THAT HE TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO DESTROY IT.


...

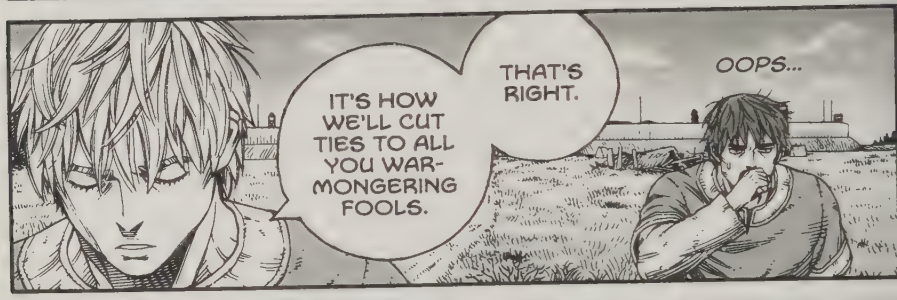
RIGHT AROUND HERE IS THORS'S GRAVE.

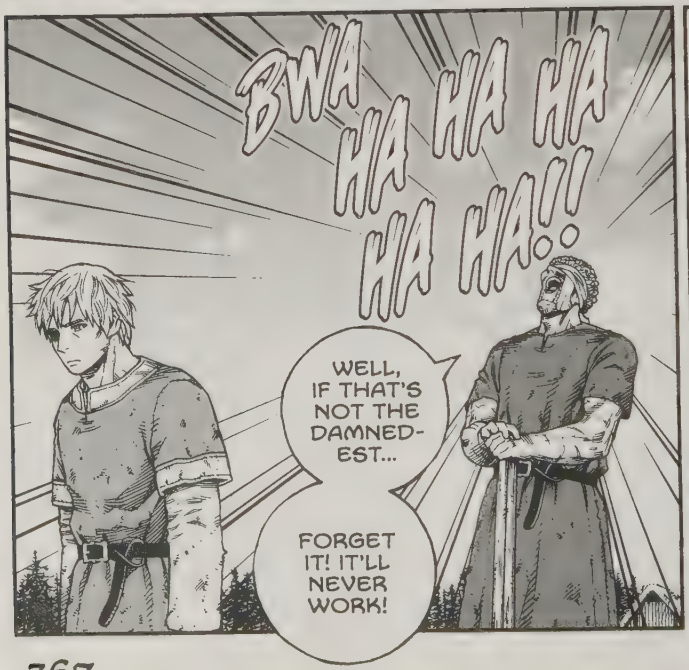
WHOOOSH

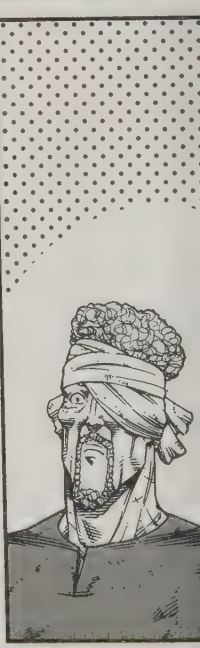
WHOOOSH
NOW, I REALIZE WHAT A NOBLE TEACHING THIS IS.
I WANT TO DO RIGHT BY THOSE WORDS.
BUT...

"YOU HAVE NO ENEMIES."
"THERE IS NO ONE THAT YOU SHOULD HURT."
WHEN I WAS A BOY, MY FATHER SAID SOMETHING TO ME.

VINN LAND?
IS THAT WHAT YOU GUYS ARE THINKING OF DOING?
WHAT? I NEVER HEARD THIS.


IT'S HOW WE'LL CUT TIES TO ALL YOU WAR-MONGERING FOOLS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OOPS...


BWA HA HA HA HA HA!!
WELL, IF THAT'S NOT THE DAMNED-EST...
FORGET IT! IT'LL NEVER WORK!

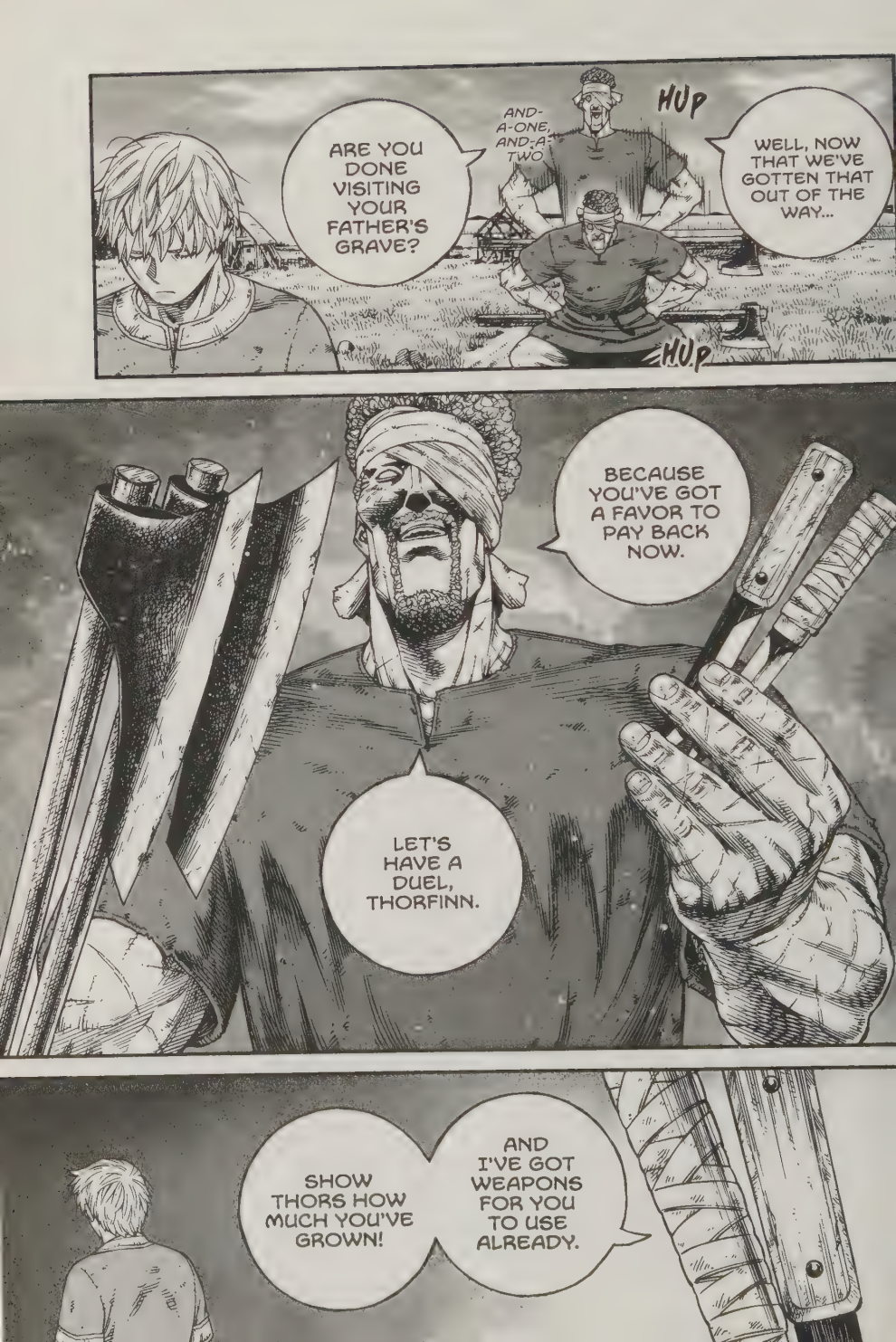


BUT...

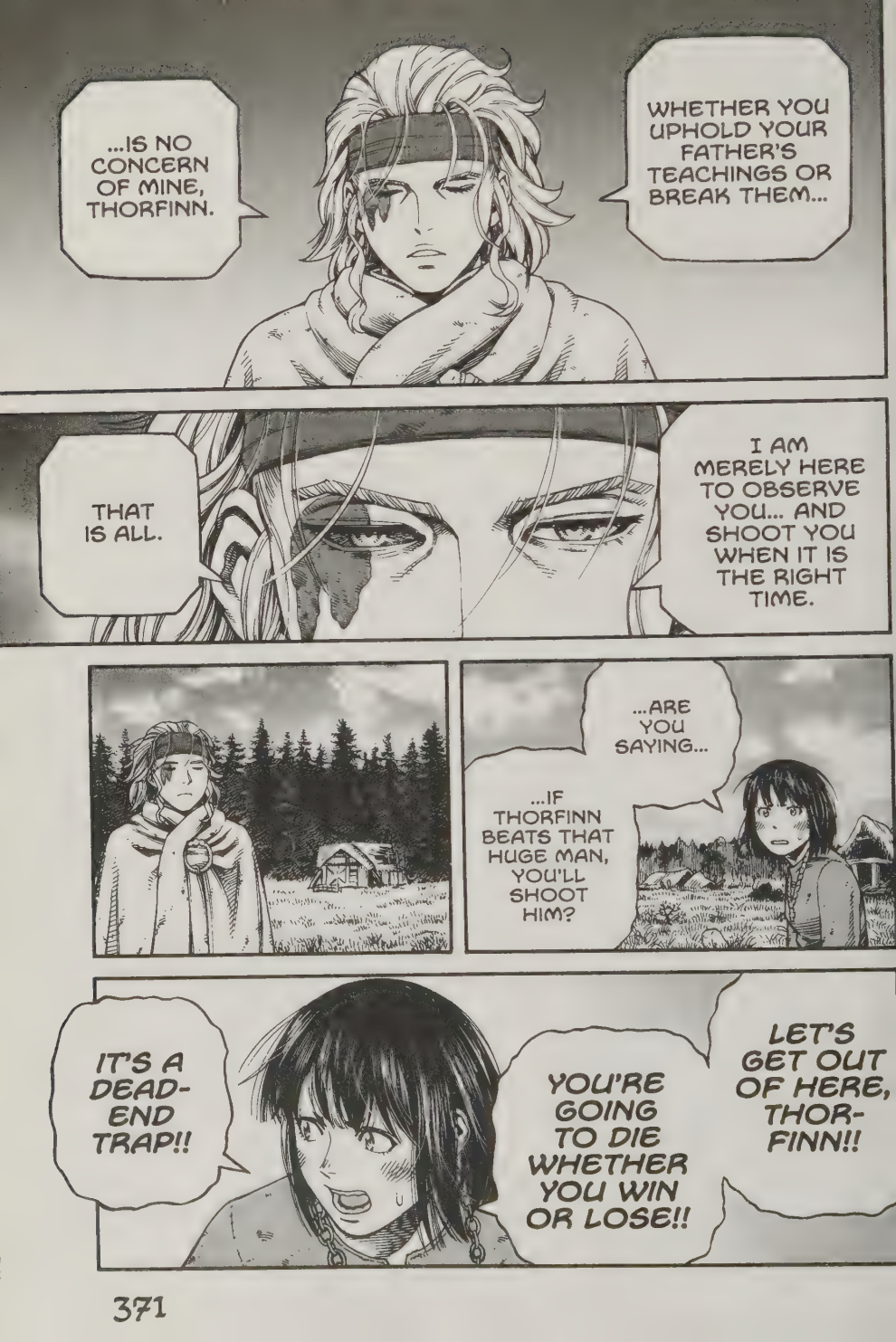
...IT'S JUST SO EXHAUST-ING...

AND... THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO VINLAND, RIGHT?

TO LEAVE THIS LAND OF ENDLESS FIGHTING AND BUILD A NATION OF PEACE.


ARE YOU DONE VISITING YOUR FATHER'S GRAVE?
AND-A-ONE, AND-A-TWO
HUP
HUP
WELL, NOW THAT WE'VE GOTTEN THAT OUT OF THE WAY...
BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT A FAVOR TO PAY BACK NOW.
LET'S HAVE A DUEL, THORFINN.
SHOW THORS HOW MUCH YOU'VE GROWN!
AND I'VE GOT WEAPONS FOR YOU TO USE ALREADY.

NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE, IF YOU'VE GOT THREE PEOPLE, THERE WILL BE WAR.
NOBODY CAN CUT TIES WITH WAR.
AS AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD, I'LL GUARANTEE YOU THAT MUCH.
THIS PLACE YOU WANT TO CREATE, THORFINN... VINN LAND, YOU CALLED IT?
THERE WILL BE WAR THERE, TOO.


...IS NO CONCERN OF MINE, THORFINN.
WHETHER YOU UPHOLD YOUR FATHER'S TEACHINGS OR BREAK THEM...
THAT IS ALL.
I AM MERELY HERE TO OBSERVE YOU... AND SHOOT YOU WHEN IT IS THE RIGHT TIME.
...ARE YOU SAYING...
...IF THORFINN BEATS THAT HUGE MAN, YOU'LL SHOOT HIM?
IT'S A DEAD-END TRAP!!
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE!!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, THOR-FINN!!

A DUEL?!

A...

YOU CAN'T BEAT THAT GUY!!

HE'S A... MONSTER!

WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?!

THORFINN!! WHAT'S THIS FAVOR HE'S TALKING ABOUT?!

IF YOU HAVE A DUEL, HILD WILL...

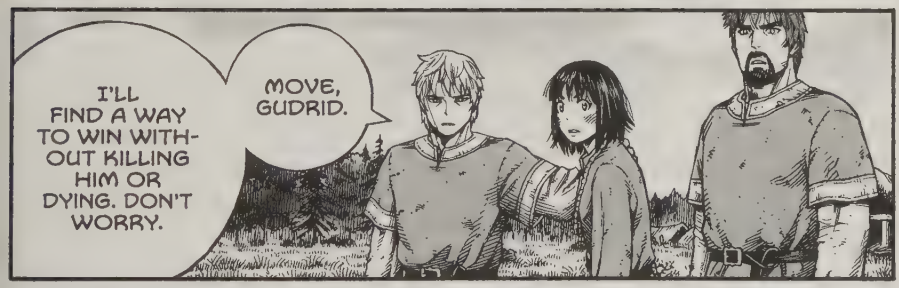
BUT... BUT STILL...

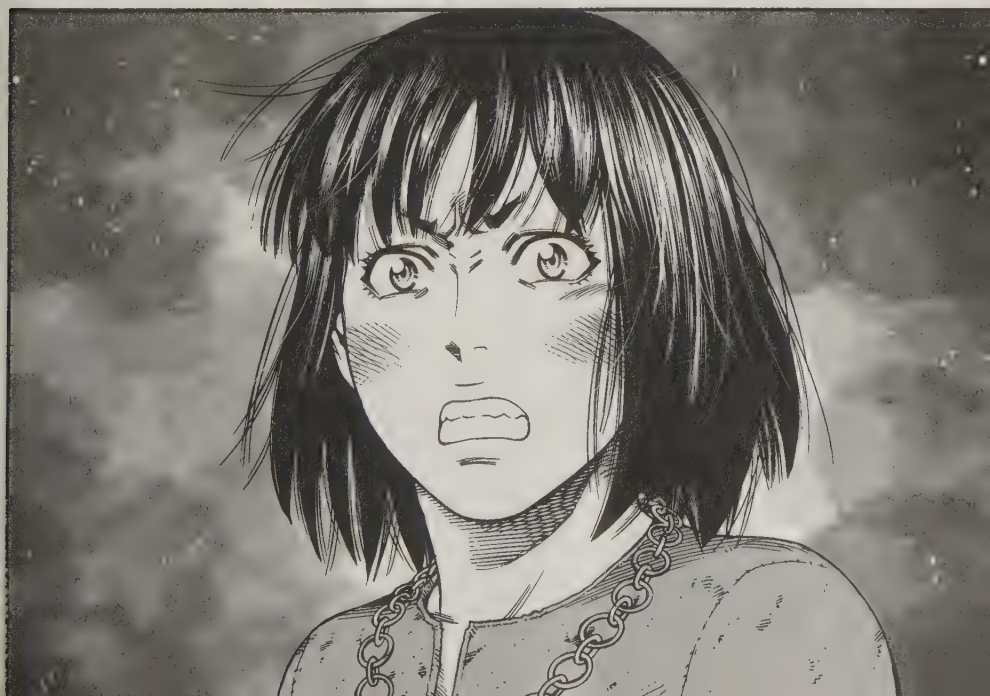
I NEEDED THOR-KELL'S HELP TO DO IT.

I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE. IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE BALDR.

HEY!
GUDRID!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN LIVING FOR. DON'T YOU TRY TO STOP IT FROM HAPPENING NOW, LITTLE LADY.
NO, NO, NO. THERE'S NO ESCAPE.

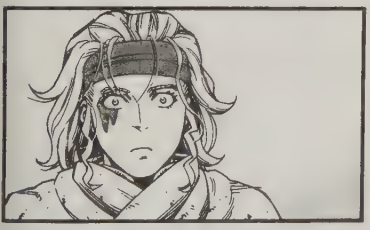

I'LL FIND A WAY TO WIN WITH-OUT KILLING HIM OR DYING. DON'T WORRY.
MOVE, GUDRID.



I'M JUST SICK OF ALL OF THIS!! OF ALL THESE PEOPLE LIKE YOU!!
THORFINN'S JUST TRYING TO LIVE AN HONEST, TRUE LIFE!!
HE'S TRYING HIS HARDEST TO BE A GENTLE PERSON!!
WHY DO YOU ALL HAVE TO KEEP PRE-VENTING HIM FROM DOING THAT?! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE?!

TAKE THAT, YOU JERK!!

BOP



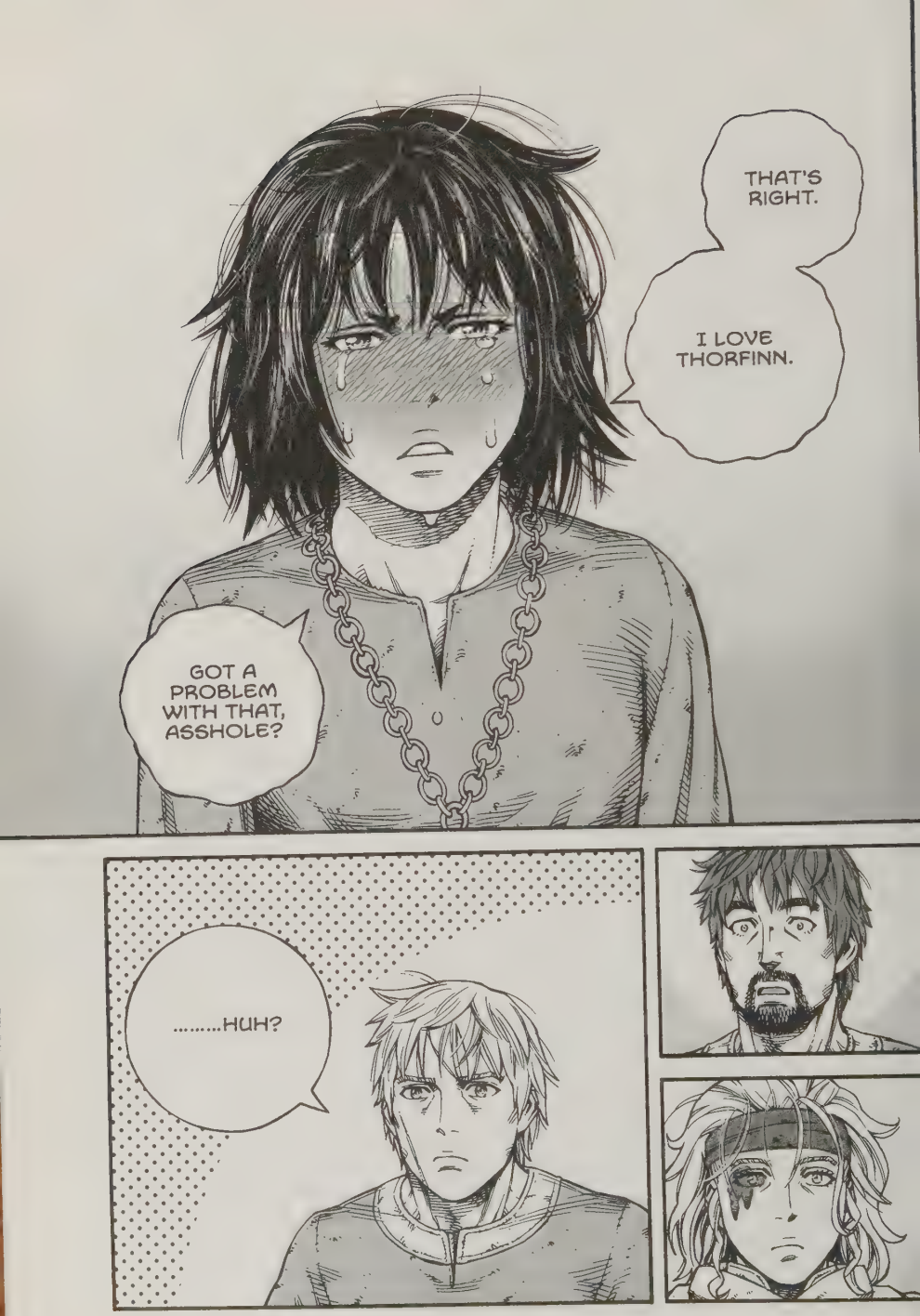
YOU WANT TO FIGHT?! I'LL TAKE YOU ON!!

BAP

THUD

BOP

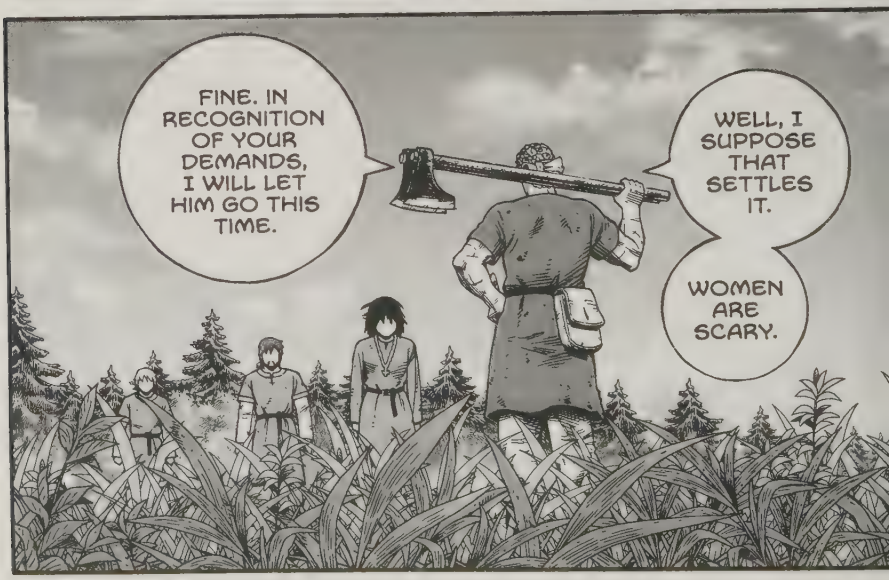
DAMMIT!! I'LL GET YOU!! GIVE ME THAT KNIFE!!

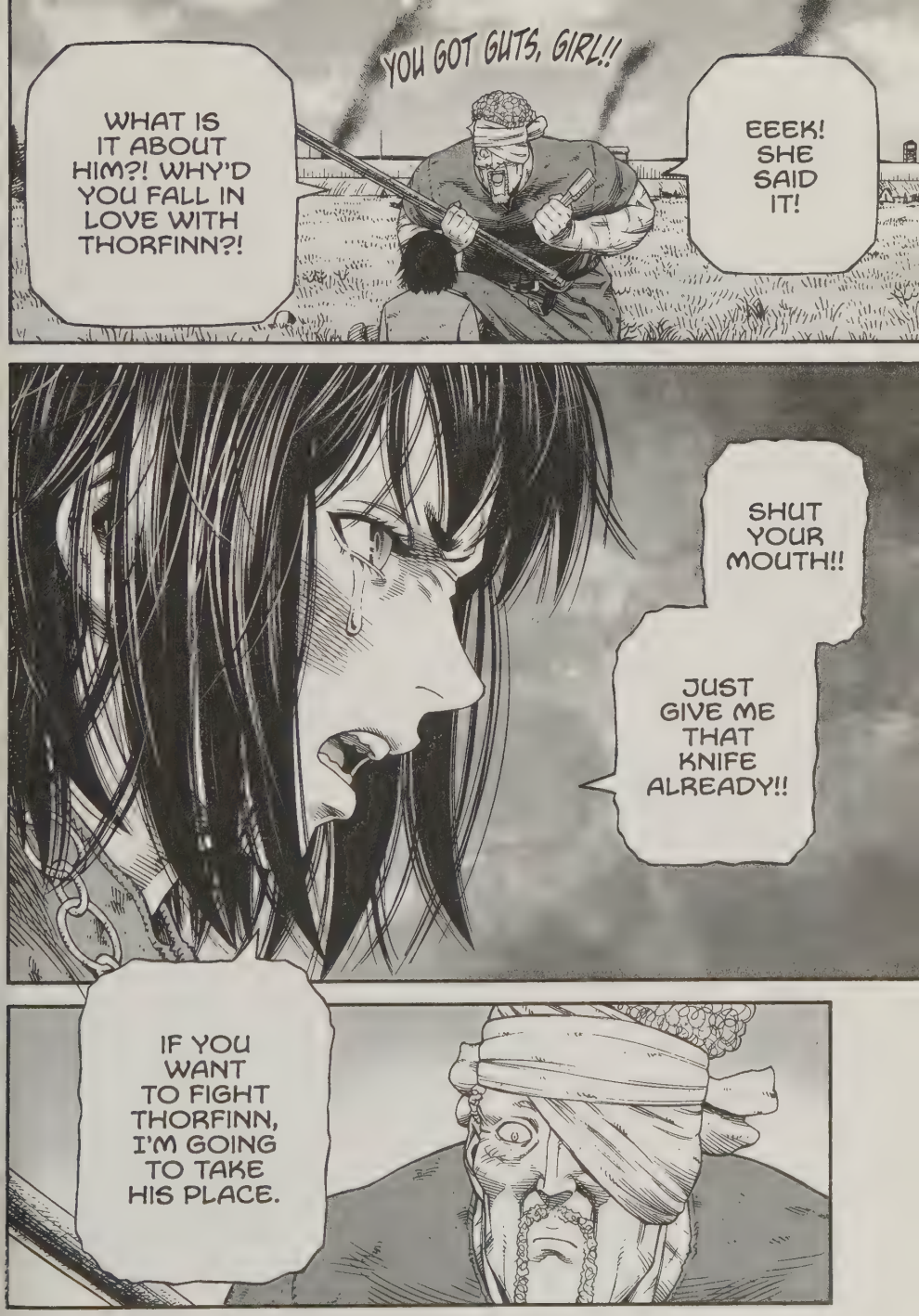

THAT'S RIGHT.
I LOVE THORFINN.
GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT, ASSHOLE?
.....HUH?

PHEW
HUFF
KOFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
YOUNG LADY...
YOU LOVE THORFINN, DON'T YOU?
AH-HAHH...
...HUH?

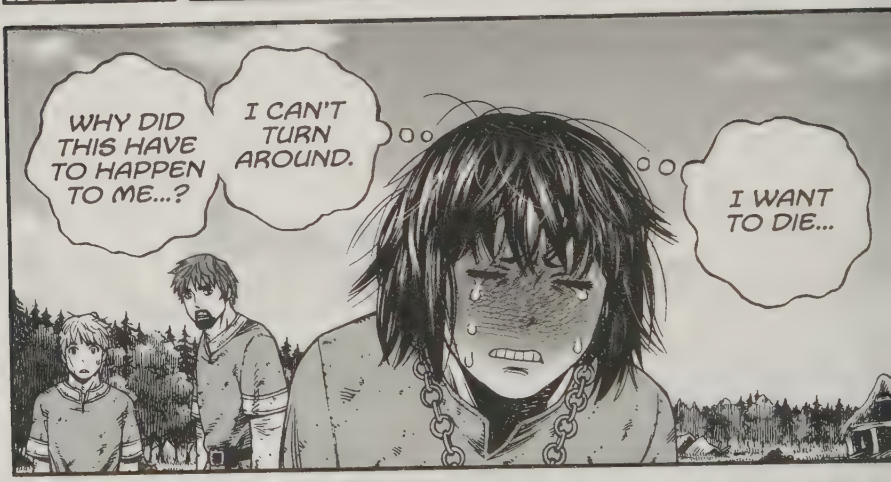
...

THE GIRL'S SERIOUS.
MY WORD...


FINE. IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR DEMANDS, I WILL LET HIM GO THIS TIME.
WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT SETTLES IT.
WOMEN ARE SCARY.

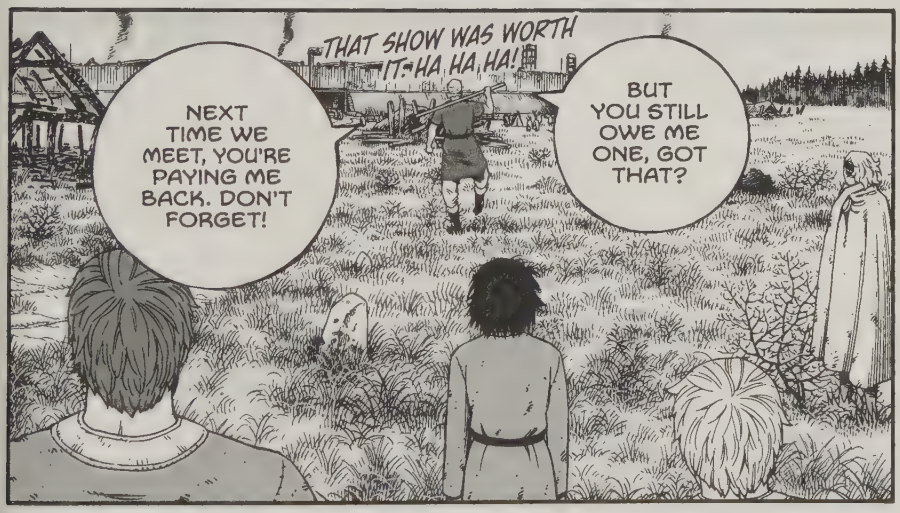

YOU GOT GUTS, GIRL!!
WHAT IS IT ABOUT HIM?! WHY'D YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH THORFINN?!
EEEK! SHE SAID IT!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH!!
JUST GIVE ME THAT KNIFE ALREADY!!
IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT THORFINN, I'M GOING TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

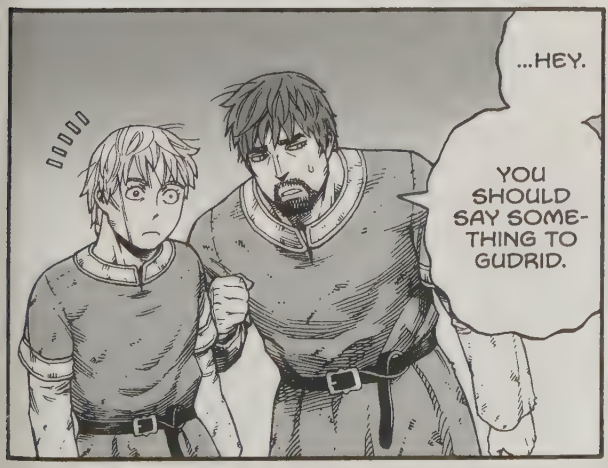
WHAT WAS THAT?!
HUH?
WHAT DID SHE JUST...


WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME...?
I CAN'T TURN AROUND.
I WANT TO DIE...

...
HEY... DID YOU HEAR THAT?

SHE'LL LOOK OUT FOR YOU.
YOU'D BETTER WED THIS GIRL.
THOR-FINN...
ZSH


THAT SHOW WAS WORTH IT. HA, HA, HA!
NEXT TIME WE MEET, YOU'RE PAYING ME BACK. DON'T FORGET!
BUT YOU STILL OWE ME ONE, GOT THAT?


...HEY.
YOU SHOULD SAY SOME-THING TO GUDRID.

...

VINLAND SAGA MAP

THORFINN'S TRAVELS

LEIF

EINAR

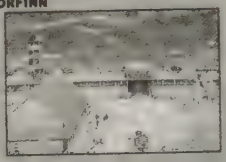
BUG-EYED THORFINN

KARLI

DOG

JOMSBORG

Base of the Jomsvikings. Garm captures Leif, Einar, and Gudrid, to force Thorfinn into action, because he has a right to lead the band, but all of them except for Gudrid escape. Bug-Eyes and Karli are observing the battle from a safe distance.



INSIDE JOMSBORG

THORFINN

FLOKI

BALDR

GARM

GUDRID

SIGURD

HILD

THORKELL

Norway

Sweden

Bergen

Shetland

Jelling

Jomsborg

Denmark

North Sea

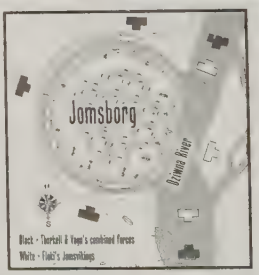
France

York

England

London

MILITARY PLACEMENT AROUND JOMSBORG



Floki plots to make his grandson Baldr the next leader of the Jomsvikings. Thorkell teams up with Floki's rival Vagn to surround Jomsborg. The fortress is nearly impregnable, until Sigurd succeeds in opening the gate, allowing Thorkell's men to rush inside.

GUDRID SAID SHE'S IN LOVE WITH THORFINN.

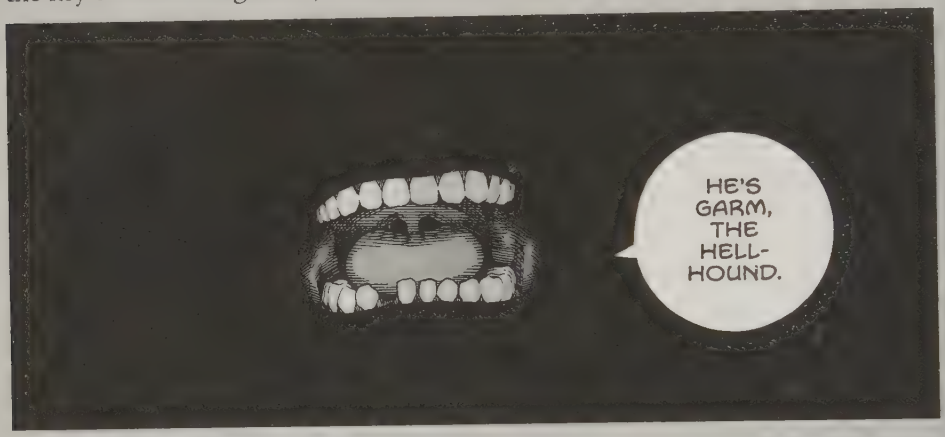
WHAT NOW?

SO, UM... SIGGY?

Translation Notes

Garm, page 266

In Norse mythology, Garm is a hound or wolf who serves Hel, a daughter of Loki and guardian of a realm of the same name (a cognate of "Hell") that contains the dead. As a fearsome beast, Garm being freed from his chains is said to be one of the key events of Ragnarok, the final battle of gods that spells the end of the world.



Ymir, page 291

The original giant in Norse mythology. Ymir is described as a kind of primordial being that emerges from the void and births the race of giants.

It's my own choice of depiction that at the point of this volume, Thorkell is in his mid-fifties in age. Despite his liveliness, in Middle Ages Northern Europe, he's an old grampaw-man. Conditions were harsh back then, and it's estimated that the average lifespan was under 50 years old. Even that young an age was difficult to reach, and over half of the people didn't survive childhood. Adults were more valuable than they are today, and it was rare to see an elderly person over 50. And that rare, precious fellow in this story is a great, big, lumbering oaf (ha-ha). For Europeans in the Middle Ages, life was short, and ended in a blink. Too short for dreams and ideals to come to fruition. So with that perspective, the way that Viking warriors lived in the ephemeral spirit, looking forward to the next life and numbed to their own death, makes a certain kind of sense to me.

MAKOTO YUKIMURA

Hi, Makoto Yukimura here. *Vinland Saga*'s got an anime! When the editor-in-chief of Afternoon Magazine told me "It's getting an anime!" I responded, "What is? Are they making an anime about you?" After some discussion, the editor name-dropped the famous WIT STUDIO. Back then, I was worried about whether the editor was of a sound mind, but the time for the official announcement is here... The editor-in-chief didn't just dream it up, and it wasn't me hallucinating... Hrmmmmmghh YAHOO!! What a thing to be grateful for! And in the hands of the people at WIT STUDIO who worked on *Attack on Titan* and *Kabaneri of the Iron Fortress*? I don't have a single thing to worry about. Now I just need to make sure I don't get in the way of the anime staff! I'll be waiting quietly as an audience member. In fact, that's the best way to enjoy this—I want to sit back and relish in the *Vinland Saga* anime more than anyone else in the world! I'm happy to be a guest, rather than staff! I won't even budge from my seat in front of the TV! Now everyone, get cozy and grab a seat. Let's wait for this godly anime together. Hoo, I'm so excited...!

MAKOTO YUKIMURA

Editor's Note:
We are pleased to present you with key visuals from the *Vinland Saga* anime. The following images appeared in Afternoon Magazine's August 2019 issue.

Vinland Saga 11 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2018, 2019 by Kodansha Ltd. Tokyo as *Vinland Saga*, volumes 21 and 22.

ISBN 978-1-63236-803-4

Printed in the United States of America.

www.kodanshacomics.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Translation: Stephen Paul
Lettering: Scott O. Brown
Editing: Haruko Hashimoto
Kodansha Comics edition cover design by Phil Balsman

Publisher: Kiichiro Sugawara
Managing editor: Maya Rosewood
Vice president of marketing & publicity: Naho Yamada

Director of publishing services: Ben Applegate
Associate director of operations: Stephen Pakula
Publishing services managing editor: Noelle Webster
Assistant production manager: Emi Lotto

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ttackers surrounding Jomsborg want Thorfinn tle he intensely rejects. When the battle for leadership over the powerful Jomsvikings reaches a stalemate, Thorfinn must make a critical decision. With Gudrid held captive within the fortressed city, walking away will not be an option. He must infiltrate Jomsborg to break her out, and the ensuing battle will leave the greatest mercenary force in the North Sea changed forever...

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—ICv2

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—Anime News Network

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EAN 9 781632 368034 52299